



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

SOLICITATION NO. S00R8400010

Issue Date: March 12, 2018

STATE WEATHERIZATION CONTRACTOR SERVICES

NOTICE

A Prospective Offeror that has received this document from the Department of Housing and Community Development's website, <https://emaryland.buyspeed.com/bsol/>, or a source other than the Procurement Officer, and that wishes to assure receipt of any changes or additional materials related to this RFP should immediately contact the Procurement Officer and provide the Prospective Offeror's name and mailing address so that addenda to the RFP or other communications can be sent to the Prospective Offeror.

Minority Business Enterprises Are Encouraged to Respond to this Solicitation

**STATE OF MARYLAND
NOTICE TO VENDORS**

To help us improve the quality of State solicitations, and to make our procurement process more responsive and business friendly, take a few minutes and provide comments and suggestions regarding this solicitation. Please return your comments with your response. If you have chosen not to respond to this solicitation, please email this completed form to the attention of the Procurement Officer (see Key Information Sheet below for contact information).

Title: State Weatherization Contractor Services

Solicitation No: S00R8400010

1. If you have chosen not to respond to this solicitation, please indicate the reason(s) below:
 - ☐ Other commitments preclude our participation at this time.
 - ☐ The subject of the solicitation is not something we ordinarily provide.
 - ☐ We are inexperienced in the work/commodities required.
 - ☐ Specifications are unclear, too restrictive, etc. (Explain in REMARKS section.)
 - ☐ The scope of work is beyond our present capacity.
 - ☐ Doing business with the State of Maryland is simply too complicated. (Explain in REMARKS section.)
 - ☐ We cannot be competitive. (Explain in REMARKS section.)
 - ☐ Time allotted for completion of the Proposal is insufficient.
 - ☐ Start-up time is insufficient.
 - ☐ Bonding/Insurance requirements are restrictive. (Explain in REMARKS section.)
 - ☐ Proposal requirements (other than specifications) are unreasonable or too risky. (Explain in REMARKS section.)
 - ☐ MBE or VSBE requirements. (Explain in REMARKS section.)
 - ☐ Prior State of Maryland contract experience was unprofitable or otherwise unsatisfactory. (Explain in REMARKS section.)
 - ☐ Payment schedule too slow.
 - ☐ Other: _____
2. If you have submitted a response to this solicitation, but wish to offer suggestions or express concerns, please use the REMARKS section below. (Attach additional pages as needed.)

REMARKS: _____

Vendor Name: _____ Date: _____

Contact Person: _____ Phone (____) ____ - _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

STATE OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

RFP KEY INFORMATION SUMMARY SHEET

Request for Proposals:	State Weatherization Contractor Services
Solicitation Number:	S00R8400010
RFP Issue Date:	March 12, 2018
RFP Issuing Office:	DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Procurement Officer:	Amanda Sadler Department of Housing and Community Development 7800 Harkins Road Lanham, MD 20706 Phone: (301) 429-7780 e-mail: amanda.sadler@maryland.gov
Proposals are to be sent to:	Department of Housing and Community Development 7800 Harkins Road Lanham, MD 20706 Attention: Amanda Sadler
Pre-Proposal Conference:	March 23, 2018, 10 a.m. Local Time Treasury Building 80 Calvert Street Annapolis, MD 21411
Proposal Due (Closing) Date and Time:	April 17, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Local Time
MBE Subcontracting Goal:	20% Functional Area I 15% Functional Area II
VSBE Subcontracting Goal:	0% Functional Area I 0% Functional Area II
Contract Type:	Indefinite quantity with firm fixed unit prices
Contract Duration:	Three (3) years, with one one-year option to be exercised at the Department's sole discretion.
SBR Designation:	No
Federal Funding:	Yes

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SECTION 1 – MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

1 Offeror Minimum Qualifications

The Offeror must provide proof with its Proposal that the following Minimum Qualifications have been met:

- 1.1 The Offeror shall have at least five (5) years of experience performing weatherization services in general. As proof of this requirement, the Offeror shall include at least three (3) references who are capable of documenting the Offeror's ability to provide the services specified in this RFP. Each reference shall be from a client for whom the Offeror has provided services within the past five (5) years and shall include the following information:
- (1) Name of client organization;
 - (2) Point of contact for client organization including:
 - a. Name,
 - b. Title,
 - c. Telephone number and,
 - d. E-mail address, if available.
 - (3) Services provided, including:
 - a. Description of services,
 - b. Duration of program or project
 - c. Value,
- 1.2 The Offeror shall be licensed in good standing by the Maryland Home Improvement Commission Board (MHIC) and possess a valid MHIC number. As proof of meeting this requirement, the offeror shall include with this response, a copy of the current MHIC license with an expiration date no earlier than the response due date.

NOTE: References should be for the point of contact where services were delivered through a program similar to this RFP, or where experience is not gained through program delivery, please provide contact information for customers directly receiving weatherization service. References should exclude DHCD staff. Such references to DHCD staff will not be considered toward meeting this minimum qualification.

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SECTION 2 – CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS: SCOPE OF WORK

2.1 Summary Statement

- 2.1.1 The Department of Housing and Community Development (“Department” or “DHCD”) is issuing this Request for Proposals (RFP) to provide weatherization and energy efficiency services across the State of Maryland. Services generally include the installation of energy efficiency materials and equipment and performing repairs and other work for the health and safety of income eligible single-family detached homes, duplexes, townhomes, or walk-up buildings with four (4) or fewer units for both owners and renters, as further described in the Scope of Work.
- 2.1.2 This RFP encompasses two Functional Areas of services: Functional Area I: Weatherization and Energy Efficiency Services; and Functional Area II: Enhanced Weatherization Services. The services included in each Functional Area are defined in more detail below.
- 2.1.3 Offerors may submit a proposal that includes Functional Area I only, Functional Area II only, or both Functional Area I and Functional Area II.
- 2.1.4 The Department will make a minimum of five (5), up to twelve (12) awards for Functional Area I and a minimum of five (5), up to ten (10) awards for Functional Area II, as a result of this RFP. The two lowest ranked Offerors in each Functional Area may be designated as On Call as Needed status and will not receive an initial budget. An Offeror will only be considered for award for the Functional Areas for which it submits a proposal. Proposals for Functional Area I and Functional Area II will be considered independently, thus Offerors submitting proposals for both Functional Area I and Functional Area II may be awarded (a) either Functional Area I or Functional Area II; (b) both Functional Area I and Functional Area II; or (c) no Functional Areas at all. Evaluation criteria are discussed further in Section 6. See RFP Section 4.9 for more Contract award information.
- 2.1.5 It is the State’s intention to obtain services throughout the State of Maryland, as specified in this RFP, through Contracts between the selected Offerors and the State. The anticipated duration of services to be provided under this Contract is three (3) years, with one (1) one-year optional term, to be exercised in the sole discretion of the Department.
- 2.1.6 For any Functional Areas for which Offeror is submitting a proposal, Offeror shall submit pricing for both (a) initial three-year term; and (b) the one (1) one-year optional term. See Section 5.5 and Attachment B for more financial proposal information.
- 2.1.7 An Offeror, either directly or through its subcontractor(s), must be able to provide all services across the State of Maryland and meet all of the requirements requested in this solicitation for the Functional Areas for which it submits a proposal, and the successful Offeror(s) (the Contractor(s)) shall remain responsible for Contract performance regardless of subcontractor participation in the work. However, MBE and VSBE requirements must still be met.
- 2.1.8 Maryland State, County, municipal, and other Maryland governments or government agencies and not-for-profit entities within the State of Maryland may purchase from the Contractor goods or services covered by this Contract at the same prices or less than that chargeable to the State. All such purchases by non-State of Maryland governments, government agencies or not-for-profit entities:
- (1) Shall constitute Contracts between the Contractor and that government, agency or not-for-profit entity;
 - (2) Shall not constitute purchases by the State or State agencies under this Contract;
 - (3) Shall not be binding or enforceable against the State; and
 - (4) May be subject to other terms and conditions agreed to by the Contractor and the purchaser. The Contractor bears the risk of determining whether or not a government, agency or not-for-profit entity with which the Contractor is dealing is a State of Maryland agency.

All Contract prices, terms, and conditions must be provided to any Maryland local government or not-for-profit

2.2 Background and Purpose

The Department assists in providing safe and affordable housing to the State's vulnerable low/moderate income population. The Department is able to assist in this mission by implementing programs that promote energy efficiency through various funding sources such as the federal Weatherization Assistance Program, EmPOWER Maryland, federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and other funding sources made available to the Department. The Department often leverages different funding sources to maximize the delivery of program benefits.

The Department is issuing this solicitation for the purposes of procuring services to perform Weatherization and Energy Efficiency Services across all of Maryland, including energy audits; energy efficiency and weatherization; work, health and safety activities such as the removal/disposal and replacement of inefficient or not functioning heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) and domestic water heating equipment with high efficiency equipment and materials; air sealing and insulation activities to building envelopes and HVAC ductwork, and activities such as removing inefficient light bulbs and replacing with high efficiency light bulbs; installing appropriate ventilation in accordance with the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) standards at the time the work is performed in bathrooms and kitchens and other areas as appropriate, and repairs to structural building components to allow for the preservation and performance of materials installed and increase occupant health and safety when possible. This work has been divided into two Functional Areas, Functional Area I (Weatherization and Energy Efficiency Work) and Functional Area II (Enhanced Weatherization Services), as discussed further in Section 2.3

2.3 Scope of Work - Requirements

2.3.1. Requirements for Functional Area I: Weatherization and Energy Efficiency Work:

Contractor shall provide weatherization and energy efficiency work for each housing unit, which may include one or more health and safety and energy efficiency measures to improve the energy and thermal efficiency of the household unit and enhance the health and safety of the unit and its occupants when feasible. Commonly installed measures include insulating and air sealing the building shell and ductwork; installing ventilation fans; removing existing inefficient lighting and installing energy efficient lighting; removing and properly disposing of inefficient HVAC, domestic water heating, and other appliances and installing high efficiency equipment, or cleaning and tuning existing HVAC equipment; making structural repairs; and installing such items as thermostats, and carbon monoxide and smoke detectors. See Attachment B, Financial Proposal Form, for a list of specific measures. Minor electrical or plumbing repairs may be required to facilitate the installation of energy efficiency measures. All work will follow the State Weatherization Program Operations Manual ("POM"), as may be amended from time to time (see separate Appendix 2). Applicable procedures include:

2.3.1.1 DHCD shall determine household unit eligibility and distribute customer leads to the Contractor using Hancock Energy Software (HES). The Contractor shall utilize the HES and Hancock Energy Audit Tool (HEAT) application and software for tracking all stages of work in real-time including lead contact attempts, project comments, energy audits, work orders, quality control, and invoicing.

2.3.1.2 The Contractor shall be responsible for:

2.3.1.2.1 Contacting the assigned lead(s), educating customers on goals and process of the energy efficiency program, and scheduling an energy audit in accordance with the POM no later than 30 days after receiving the assigned lead from DHCD. Department assigned leads take precedence over Contractor-generated leads pursuant to Section 2.3.1.2.4.

2.3.1.2.2 Having owners and tenants sign any necessary documents for efficient program administration.

- 2.3.1.2.3 Entering into contracts with property owners for work to be completed, as required by Maryland law. Contractors are not instrumentalities of the State of Maryland. Contractors enter into agreements with property owners for services to be provided from the contractor to the property owner. The Department pays for those services, but is not a party to that agreement.
- 2.3.1.2.4 Generating additional leads as is appropriate to support funding availability. Self-generated leads may be multi-family properties with building types or individual customers, and have to undergo income certification.
- 2.3.1.2.5 Completing and providing all required documentation as required in the POM, including, but not limited to: Permission to Enter Form, Building Owner Agreement and Tenant Synopsis, Utility Consent Form, Quality Control Inspection Form and contract.
- 2.3.1.2.6 Conducting an energy audit, identifying all possible energy saving opportunities, and modeling a package of feasible improvements for the housing unit that meets program efficiency requirements. Measures that were identified, but not included in the work scope must be documented in Hancock energy software as well.
- 2.3.1.2.7 Preparing a work order in accordance with program guidelines, including the Standard Work Specifications (SWS) (<https://sws.nrel.gov/>) and Maryland Field Guide (<http://wxfieldguide.com/md/>), and using Hancock energy software for each audited household unit detailing weatherization services to be provided.
- 2.3.1.2.8 Obtaining permits for work performed as required by the local building authority having jurisdiction.
- 2.3.1.2.9 Completing work as indicated in the work order and according to Program requirements and procedures detailed in the POM (separate Appendix 2), as may be amended from time to time, SWS (<https://sws.nrel.gov/>), field guide (<http://wxfieldguide.com/md/>), and manufacturer installation instructions.
- 2.3.1.2.10 Performing technical diagnostics in accordance with Building Performance Institute (BPI) standards, including blower door testing, combustion safety analysis, and zonal pressure testing. Documenting diagnostic results as applicable in the HES.
- 2.3.1.2.11 Managing the installation of skilled trades measures, including but not limited to those provided by licensed plumbers, electricians, and HVAC personnel.
- 2.3.1.2.12 Inspecting 100% of the completed work utilizing a certified quality control inspector to verify quality control and completion as indicated in the work order and according to Program requirements and procedures detailed in the POM (separate Appendix 2), as may be amended from time to time, SWS (<https://sws.nrel.gov/>), field guide (<http://wxfieldguide.com/md/>), and manufacturer installation instructions.
- 2.3.1.2.13 Providing occupant education to maximize energy savings through occupant understanding of energy efficiency issues and behavior changes. Occupant education will include a review of measures to be installed and upon completion, measures installed, distribution of energy education materials, and building-specific energy saving behavior changes as identified by the energy audit.
- 2.3.1.2.14 Submitting a proper invoice through the Hancock software for review and payment within seventy-five (75) days of completing the energy audit, or as required in the POM. See Section 3.4 for more information about invoicing.
- 2.3.1.2.15 Entering all data tracking and reporting into the Hancock software system as required by DHCD and specified in the POM, including but not limited to tracking and reporting on all

customer communications and project progress within one (1) week of an activity occurring, tracking and reporting of contractor personnel hours worked, and providing other data as required by DHCD.

2.3.1.2.16 Completing any other tasks as required under the POM or requested by the Department and reasonably related to the tasks defined above.

2.3.1.3 The Contractor shall maintain an active role in each job assigned and is responsible for accurate execution of work and reporting on any in-process job even when subcontractors perform the work.

2.3.1.4 All work orders are subject to DHCD review. Proposed work orders that exceed the amount designated for any specific funding source, as defined in the POM, shall be submitted to DHCD through the HES for approval *prior* to the commencement of work.

2.3.1.5 DHCD will inspect a minimum of 10% of completed units for quality assurance.

2.3.2 Requirements for Functional Area II: Enhanced Weatherization Services

Offerors responding to the enhanced weatherization service Functional Area shall perform enhanced services, including the following:

2.3.2.1. General Requirements

- a. Conduct lead, asbestos, and mold inspections; risk assessments; and testing and abatement with qualified personnel in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), federal Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), and industry standards;
- b. Arrange for the delivery and project management of specialty services, including but not limited to those provided by licensed plumbers, electricians, structural engineers and HVAC personnel.
- c. Temporarily relocate occupants, with prior DHCD approval, where required by extensive health and safety interventions, specifically where hazard reduction activities affect the home for more than one workday and cannot be isolated to a contained work area.

2.3.2.2. Structural Rehabilitation. Structural rehabilitation includes but is not limited to roof repair and replacement and other repairs of structural deficiencies. When the Contractor or DHCD determines that a structural issue poses a significant structural deficiency, the Contractor will make necessary repairs and, as required by DHCD, provide a structural engineer report with the scope of work and/or be able to provide or demonstrate to DHCD a permit with the local jurisdiction and code office that demonstrates that the local office has approved and inspected the structural repair.

2.3.2.3. Asbestos Risk Assessment and Remediation. All asbestos inspections, removal, encapsulation, and enclosure of asbestos-containing materials shall be performed by MDE-accredited asbestos personnel. The work shall be conducted by persons qualified in the techniques of asbestos abatement, handling, and disposal of asbestos containing and asbestos-contaminated materials and subsequent cleaning of contaminated areas to comply with all state regulations, including COMAR 26.11.21 Control of Asbestos.

2.3.2.4. Mold Risk Assessment and Remediation. All mold inspections shall be performed by certified mold remediation experts. The Contractor or subcontractor(s) performing mold inspections shall be qualified to provide environmental consulting services necessary to comply with all state regulations for mold remediation and re-inspection and certification. Air quality testing should be performed to include air samples to collect airborne spores to determine the amount of mold in the air. A thorough post mold remediation inspection shall be conducted to ensure the quality of the work done meets the program requirements. This should include but is not limited to a visual inspection and air sampling.

2.3.2.5. Lead Hazard Assessment and Remediation

- a. All lead inspections and risk assessments shall be performed by MDE-accredited lead-based paint risk assessors and inspectors. The Contractor and /or its subcontractor(s) performing lead inspections

and risk assessments shall be qualified to comply with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulation 24 CFR 35, et al. Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention in Certain Residential Structures. Housing built after January 1, 1978 is considered to be exempt from these regulations.

- b. The paint inspections shall meet or exceed the recommended protocol of the State of Maryland and the HUD guidelines for the Evaluation and Control of Lead-Based Paint in Housing (1997 - Chapter 7), the requirements of 24 CFR 35.1320 - Paint Inspections and Risk Assessments, and work practice standards under 40 CFR 745.227. Testing shall consist of a full lead paint inspection using a single-family testing protocol and an XRF analyzer.
- c. Lead abatement services providers shall comply with COMAR 26.16.05 – Procedures for Performing Lead Abatement Services. The protocols shall meet or exceed the recommended requirements of the HUD Guidelines for the Evaluation and Control of Lead-Based Paint in Housing (1995, Chapter 5) and all standards previously noted.
- d. Clearance inspections shall be performed to confirm that work required to eliminate lead-based paint hazards has been completed in accordance with applicable federal and State standards and that the work has not increased lead hazards at the property. Each clearance examination shall be performed by personnel properly trained and accredited by MDE as a Risk Assessor or Inspector Technician. Lead abatement services providers shall comply with COMAR 26.16.05 – Procedures for Performing Lead Abatement Services. Each examination shall meet or exceed the recommended protocol of the HUD Guidelines for the Evaluation and Control of Lead-Based Paint in Housing (1995-Chapter 15), and the work standards previously noted. Each clearance examination will consist of a visual testing, dust testing, and soil sampling if the scope included exterior paint. Testing shall meet or exceed the recommended protocol of the HUD Guidelines for the Evaluation and Control of Lead-Based Paint in Housing and the requirements of 24 CFR 35.1315 – Collection and Laboratory Analysis of Samples. Sampling shall be from those areas that represent the greatest risk of exposure, consistent with Federal regulations and COMAR 26.16.02(4)(a).
- e. Upon completion of the paint inspection and risk assessment, the information and findings shall be compiled into a report to be submitted to DHCD. Results of the paint inspection shall be classified as positive, negative or inconclusive for lead when compared to the Maryland Regulatory standard applicable at the time. Reports shall be delivered to DHCD five (5) calendar days from the date of the clearance inspection.

2.3.2.6 Other tasks and improvements requested by the Department and reasonably related to the above-referenced tasks or the general scope of work.

2.3.3 Requirements Applicable to Functional Areas I and II:

2.3.3.1 State Weatherization Program Operations Manual (POM) provides information concerning what is required of the Contractor. The Contractor shall provide services as detailed in the POM, separate Appendix 2, as is amended from time to time. Program guidelines do change from time to time depending on funding source requirements. The Contractor must make adjustments to deliverables as guidance is updated by the State.

2.3.3.2 Home Energy Audits. All audits shall be performed in accordance with the POM and Building Performance Institute (BPI) standards. All energy audit data is entered through the Hancock Energy Audit Tool, DHCD's approved online audit tool. Individuals performing home energy audits shall be BPI certified building analyst professionals and hold the required additional certifications.

2.3.3.3 Experience. Preference will be given to Contractors having at least three (3) years of experience providing weatherization services to vulnerable low/moderate income populations.

2.3.3.4 Licenses, Certification and Training Applicable to Employees/Agents of Contractor or its Subcontractors who Provide Work Under the Contract

- 2.3.3.4.1** All weatherization workers, energy auditors and Quality Control (QC) inspectors shall have EPA Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting (LRRP) certification. As proof of meeting this requirement the Offeror shall provide copies of this certification for all weatherization workers, energy auditors and quality control (QC) inspectors employed by the Prime or subcontractors with the proposal if available, or no later than at the time of Contract execution.
- 2.3.3.4.2** All weatherization workers, energy auditors and QC inspectors shall have certification of weatherization installer fundamentals training received 2009 or later that meets the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) core competencies. As proof of meeting this requirement the Offeror shall provide copies of this certification for all weatherization workers, energy auditors and QC inspectors employed by the Prime or the subcontractor with the proposal if available, or no later than at the time of Contract execution. If not currently certified, these worker categories must receive training and certification within nine (9) months from contract execution.
- 2.3.3.4.3** All weatherization workers, including energy auditors and QC inspectors, except crew leaders, shall have Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10-hour Construction Safety certification. As proof of meeting this requirement, the Offeror shall provide copies of this certification for all weatherization workers employed by the Prime or the subcontractor with the proposal if available, or no later than at the time of Contract execution.
- 2.3.3.4.4** All weatherization crew leaders shall have OSHA 30-hour Construction Safety certification. As proof of meeting this requirement the Offeror shall provide copies of this certification for all weatherization crew leaders employed by the Prime or the subcontractor with the proposal if available, or no later than at the time of Contract execution.
- 2.3.3.4.5** All energy auditors and QC inspectors shall have the Building Analyst Professional or Envelope Professional Certification from BPI. As proof of meeting this requirement the Offeror shall provide copies of this certification for all energy auditors and QC inspectors employed by the Prime or the subcontractor with the proposal if available, or no later than at the time of Contract execution.
- 2.3.3.4.6** All QC inspectors shall have the HEP Quality Assurance Inspector credential. As proof of meeting this requirement the Offeror shall provide copies of this certification for all QC inspectors employed by the Prime or the subcontractor with the proposal if available, or no later than at the time of Contract execution.
- 2.3.3.4.7** All other trades performing work under this contract that require a license or certification by the State of Maryland to perform such work must hold a valid license or certification for the work being performed.
- 2.3.3.4.8** Contractors performing the installation or removal of equipment containing refrigerants must hold a valid US Environmental Protection Agency-approved section 608 type I or universal certification.
- 2.3.3.4.9** Contractors shall attend and receive program appropriate training and technical assistance as required by the Department to improve program delivery and performance. Required training for personnel providing services under this contract may be reimbursed for costs incurred such as registration, testing, and travel expenses.

2.3.3.5 Volume of Work and Contractor Capacity.

- 2.3.3.5.1** The number of housing units and funding assigned to the Contractor for weatherization work shall be at DHCD's sole discretion and DHCD shall not guarantee the volume of assignments.

- 2.3.3.5.2 The Contractor shall have the capacity to complete at least fifteen (15) housing units each month. However, workflow shall be budgeted and managed in a manner that provides consistent production over the course of the program cycle without significant fluctuations in production. Budgets may be adjusted by DHCD at its sole discretion and with prior notification of the contractor, in a manner that is in the best interest of the Department in meeting program goals.
- 2.3.3.5.3 The Contractor's acceptance of an assignment indicates its ability to complete the assignment within the time and budget allocated, and meet the specific assignment deadline.

2.3.3.6 Hardware, Software, and Equipment Requirements

- 2.3.3.6.1 Hardware. The Contractor agrees to purchase upon contract award, or already have available, to dedicate for performance of work under this Contract a minimum of:
- 2.3.3.6.1.1 One (1) of either iPhone, iPad Touch, or iPad, or approved comparable devices for each Energy Auditor and Quality Control Inspector performing work under this contract; and
- 2.3.3.6.1.2 One (1) portable printer for each Energy Auditor and Quality Control Inspector performing work under this contract.
- 2.3.3.6.2 Equipment. The Contractor shall possess one (1) blower door kit complete with compatible Manometer and one (1) Combustion Analysis Kit per Energy Auditor / Quality Control Inspector. The contractor shall maintain equipment calibration within equipment manufacturer guidelines for all equipment through the duration of this contract. As proof of meeting this requirement the Contractor shall provide photos with serial numbers for the unit with corresponding calibration dates, results, and expiration.
- 2.3.3.6.3 The Contractor agrees to participate in energy audit tool application and software training sessions as directed by DHCD.

2.3.3.7 Staff and Contractor/Subcontractor Reporting

Each Offeror shall complete and submit a Staff and Contractor/Sub-Contractor List within 5 (five) Business Days of recommendation for Contract award and before any work begins. After Contract award, changes in staff or contractors/subcontractors used to perform the work shall be reported to the DHCD Contract Monitor identified in the Contract. Changes in subcontractors must be approved by the Department.

2.3.3.8 Key Personnel

The Contractor shall maintain a staffing plan that describes the Contractor's team and identifies the specific individuals who will perform the required services as outlined in RFP § 3.10, including the key personnel of any subcontractor, such as those used to meet an MBE goal assigned to the Contract. The staffing plan shall include a description of the division of responsibility envisioned among these individuals and a list of certifications for each individual.

It is expected that the key project team personnel assigned will remain for the length of the Contract period. Replacement of any personnel shall be with personnel of substantially equal ability, qualifications, certifications, and experience and with the prior written consent of DHCD. DHCD will reserve the right to terminate the Contract if key personnel are changed without such notice and consent.

2.3.3.9 Approach to Services – Work Plan

The Contractor shall maintain a schedule or work plan (Work Plan) that details how the Contractor shall fulfill the responsibilities and complete the work as described in RFP § 2. The Contractor agrees to

maintain and update the Work Plan and make the Work Plan available to DHCD upon request.

2.3.3.11Suspension

2.3.3.11.1Suspension in the Discretion of the Department - The Contractor may be suspended from any further performance under the Contract where the Department determines it is in the best interest of the State or the Department to do so.

2.3.3.11.2Suspension for Negligence or Misrepresentation - The Department will inspect the quality of work performed under the Contract, including but not limited to project management, energy audits, work performed, and quality and timeliness of data entered into the Hancock database. If the quality of work identified by any program staff for any specific activity is determined to be below acceptable program standards up to three (3) times during a six (6) month period, the Department may, in its sole discretion, suspend the responsible individual or individuals from performing any further work under the Contract for a period to be determined by the Department. The Department will consider revocation of such suspension when it specifies conditions for reinstatement and those conditions are met. If any individual working under the Contract is found to have acted in a fraudulent manner, the Department will suspend that individual indefinitely from performing work under the Contract. The Department will not be liable for any alleged damages, including but not limited to claimed lost profits, or other expenses, incurred by the Contractor as a result of any suspension described in this section.

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SECTION 3 – CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS: GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Insurance Requirements

- 3.1.1 The Contractor shall maintain Commercial General Liability Insurance to cover losses resulting from, or arising out of, Contractor action or inaction in the performance of the Contract by the Contractor, its agents, servants, employees, or subcontractors, with minimum limits of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate.
- 3.1.2 The Contractor shall maintain Errors and Omissions/Professional Liability insurance with minimum limits of \$1,000,000 per claim and annual aggregate.
- 3.1.3 The Contractor shall maintain Automobile and/or Commercial Truck Insurance as appropriate with Liability, Collision, and PIP limits no less than those required by the State where the vehicle(s) is registered, but in no case less than those required by the State of Maryland.
- 3.1.4 The Contractor shall maintain Crime Insurance to cover employee theft with a minimum single loss limit of \$500,000 per loss, and minimum a single loss retention not to exceed \$10,000.
- 3.1.5 Within five (5) Business Days of recommendation for Contract award, and before any work begins, the Contractor shall provide the Procurement Officer with current certificates of insurance, and update such certificates periodically, but no less than annually in multi-year contracts, as directed by the Contract Monitor. Such copy of the Contractor's current certificate of insurance shall contain at minimum the following:
 - a. Workers' Compensation – The Contractor shall maintain such insurance as necessary and/or required under Workers' Compensation Acts, the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, and the Federal Employers' Liability Act.
 - b. Commercial General Liability as required in Section 3.1.1.
 - c. Errors and Omissions/Professional Liability as required in Section 3.1.2.
 - d. Automobile and/or Commercial Truck Insurance as required in Section 3.1.3.
 - e. Crime Insurance as required in Section 3.1.4.
- 3.1.6 The State of Maryland shall be listed as an additional insured on any Commercial General Liability, Auto Liability, Professional/Cyber Liability, and excess liability or umbrella policies with the exception of Workers' Compensation Insurance, which is currently handled by the Chesapeake Employer's Insurance Company (formerly Injured Workers' Insurance Fund). This means the faces of the certificates of insurance for these policies must state, "The State of Maryland is an Additional Insured." All insurance policies shall be endorsed to include a clause that requires that the insurance carrier provide the Contract Monitor, by certified mail, not less than 30 days' advance notice of any non-renewal, cancellation, or expiration. In the event the Contract Monitor receives a notice of non-renewal, the Contractor shall provide the Contract Monitor with an insurance policy from another carrier at least 15 days prior to the expiration of the insurance policy then in effect. All insurance policies shall be with a company licensed by the State to do business and provide such policies.
- 3.1.7 The Contractor shall require that any subcontractors providing primary services (as opposed to non-critical, ancillary services) under this Contract obtain and maintain the same levels of insurance and shall provide the Contract Monitor with the same documentation as is required of the Contractor.

3.2 Security Requirements

3.2.1 Employee Identification

- 3.2.1.1 Each person who is an employee or agent of the Contractor or subcontractor shall display his or her company ID badge or wear a uniform identifying the company name at all times while at client premises. Upon request of authorized State personnel, each such employee or agent shall provide additional photo identification.

3.2.2 Criminal Background Check

The Contractor shall secure, at its own expense, a criminal background check from the Maryland Criminal Justice Information System and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (which may be obtained through the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services), for any Contractor or subcontractor personnel to be assigned to work on client premises under the Contract. The Contractor may not assign any individual to work on client premises if that individual poses any risk to the safety of a client.

In determining the suitability of an individual to perform work on client premises:

- (a) The Contractor shall consider whether the individual has been convicted of a crime which bears a direct relationship to the individual's fitness to conduct work on client premises or poses any risk to the safety of the client. Such crimes include, but may not be limited to, sex offenses and violent criminal activity.
- (b) The Contractor may consider the individual's age at the time of commission of any crime, the circumstances surrounding the crime, the time which may have elapsed since a conviction, the nature of the crime, and the frequency of the crime.
- (c) The Contractor may consider the rehabilitation record and parole record, if any, of the individual.
- (d) Juvenile dispositions under Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article, Title 3, Subtitle 8, Annotated Code of Maryland, or its predecessors relating to the delinquency of minors, probations before or without verdict, offense reports, arrest records, nolle prosequi and stet processus may not be considered.
- (e) The Contractor may consider the individual's complete record of criminal convictions.

3.3 Problem Escalation Procedure

The Contractor is responsible for all work performed under the contract. The response to this section will explain how the Contractor will address problems that occur during the performance of the program.

3.3.1 The Offeror must provide a Problem Escalation Procedure (PEP) for both routine and emergency situations as part of the response to this RFA. The PEP must state how the Offeror will address problem situations as they occur during the performance of the Contract, especially problems that are not resolved to the satisfaction of the State within appropriate timeframes. Such problem situations should include:

- 1) customer complaints about the type or quality of work performed,
- 2) accusations or incidents of theft,
- 3) observation of illegal activities, threats or physical assaults,
- 4) damage caused to customer homes, etc.

The PEP must also provide for resolving:

- 1) customer issues resulting from poor quality work,
- 2) work not meeting program guidance,
- 3) work not meeting manufacturer installation instructions, and
- 4) work performed without a permit where required by the local authority having jurisdiction.

3.3.2 The PEP shall detail how the problems identified in 3.3.1 above will be identified and escalated in order to resolve them in a timely manner. The PEP shall detail:

- 1) The process for establishing the existence of a problem;
- 2) Names, titles, and contact information for progressively higher levels of personnel in the Offeror's organization who would become involved in resolving a problem;
- 3) For each individual listed in the Offeror's PEP, the maximum amount of time a problem will remain unresolved with that individual before the problem escalates to the next contact person listed in the Offeror's PEP;
- 4) Expedited escalation procedures and any circumstances that would trigger expediting them;
- 5) The method of providing feedback on resolution progress, including the frequency of feedback to be provided to the State;

- 6) Contact information for persons responsible for resolving issues after normal business hours (e.g., evenings, weekends, holidays, etc.) and on an emergency basis; and
- 7) A process for updating and notifying the Program Manager of any changes to the PEP.

If awarded a Contract, the Contractor must maintain the above PEP and provide contact information to the Program Manager, as well as to other State personnel as directed should the Program Manager not be available. The PEP, including any revisions thereto, must also be provided within ten (10) Business Days after any change in circumstance which changes the PEP.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit any rights of the Program Manager or the State which may be allowed by the Contract or applicable law.

3.4 Invoicing

3.4.1 General

- 3.4.1.1 All invoices for services shall be submitted by the Contractor through the HES database. Only proper invoices will be considered for payment.

“Proper invoice” means an invoice submitted through the Hancock Database after project completion, which is supported by a project or client file in the Hancock Database, and which includes up-to-date real-time project stage progression, project comments, project inspection activity and notes, all required project program documentation entered/uploaded to its appropriate location, and which does not occur greater than two (2) weeks from the completion of the job for an invoice to be eligible for payment. All invoices shall include the following information:

- (1) Contractor name and address;
- (2) Remittance address;
- (3) Federal taxpayer identification number (or if sole proprietorship, the individual’s social security number);
- (4) Invoice date;
- (5) Invoice number;
- (6) Goods or services provided; and
- (7) Amount due.

Invoices submitted without the required information cannot be processed for payment until the Contractor provides the required information.

- 3.4.1.2 The Department reserves the right to reduce or withhold Contract payment in the event the Contractor does not provide the Department with all required deliverables within the time frame specified in the RFP or POM or otherwise materially breaches the terms and conditions of the Contract until such time as the Contractor brings itself into full compliance with the Contract by meeting program requirements identified in the POM. Also see the “Living Wage” provision of the Contract, if applicable, which allows for withholding of payment under certain circumstances. Any action on the part of the Department, or dispute of action by the Contractor, shall be in accordance with the provisions of Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article §§ 15-215 through 15-223 and with COMAR 21.10.04.

3.4.2 Invoice Submission Schedule

The Contractor shall submit invoices in accordance with the following schedule:

Invoices shall be submitted within two (2) weeks of project completion. Project completion occurs when both of the following have occurred: (a) project passes quality control inspection and (b) client satisfaction signature has been obtained. A project that has been inspected for quality control but does not pass shall not be invoiced for payment until the corrective action is made and passes the final quality control inspection. No invoices for

projects will be paid where any of the following applies:

- a. Project should have been denied by Contractor but was not properly denied.
- b. Project has not been completed.
- c. Project does not pass quality control inspection.
- d. Client satisfaction signature has not been obtained.
- e. The Project is suspended for poor performance or any other failure of the Contractor under the Contract.
- f. Contractor is in breach of the Contract and the provisions of the Contract permit withholding of payments.

Invoices will be processed for payment after final inspection, client satisfaction, and final approval by DHCD.

Invoices for projects found to not meet program requirements will either not be paid, or future invoice amounts will be held or reduced until corrected actions are verified by a state inspector.

3.5 SOC 2 Type 2 Audit Report

A SOC 2 Type 2 Report is not a Contractor requirement for this Contract.

3.6 MBE Reports

This solicitation includes an MBE Goal (see Section 4.26), therefore the Contractor and its MBE subcontractors shall provide the following MBE Monthly Reports based upon the commitment to the goal:

- (1) **Attachment D-4A**, the MBE Participation Prime Contractor Paid/Unpaid MBE Invoice Report by the 10th of the month following the reporting period to the Contract Monitor and the MBE Liaison Officer;
- (2) **Attachment D-4B** (*if applicable*), the MBE Prime Contractor Report by the 10th of the month following the reporting period to the Contract Monitor and the MBE Liaison Officer; and
- (3) **Attachment D-5**, the MBE Participation Subcontractor Paid/Unpaid MBE Invoice Report by the 10th of the month following the reporting period to the Contract Monitor and the MBE Liaison Officer.

3.7 VSBE Reports

This solicitation does not include a VSBE Goal.

3.8 Liquidated Damages

This solicitation includes an MBE Goal, therefore Offeror is advised that liquidated damages will apply in the event the Contractor fails to comply in good faith with the requirements of the MBE program and pertinent Contract provisions. (See Contract – Attachment M, “Liquidated Damages” clause.)

3.9 End of Contract Transition

The Contractor shall cooperate in the orderly transition of services from the Contract awarded under this solicitation to any subsequent contract for similar services. The transition period shall begin thirty (30) days before the Contract end date, or the end date of any final exercised option or contract extension. The Contractor shall work toward a prompt and timely transition, proceeding in accordance with the directions of the Contract Monitor. The Contract Monitor may provide the Contractor with additional instructions to meet specific transition requirements prior to the end of Contract.

3.10 Substitution of Personnel

3.10.1 **Continuous Performance of Key Personnel.** Unless substitution is approved per paragraphs 3.10.2-3.10.4 of this section, Key Personnel shall be the same personnel proposed in the Contractor's Technical Proposal, which will be incorporated into the Contract by reference. Such identified Key Personnel shall perform continuously for the duration of the Contract, or such lesser duration as specified in the Technical Proposal. Key Personnel may not be removed by the Contractor from working under this Contract, as described in the RFP or the Contractor's Technical Proposal, without the prior written approval of the Contract Monitor.

If the Contract is task order based, the provisions of this section apply to Key Personnel identified in each task order proposal and agreement.

3.10.2 **Definitions.** For the purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

Extraordinary Personal Circumstance – Any circumstance in an individual's personal life that reasonably requires immediate and continuous attention for more than fifteen (15) days and precludes the individual from performing his/her job duties under this Contract. Examples of such circumstances may include, but are not limited to: a sudden leave of absence to care for a family member who is injured, sick, or incapacitated; the death of a family member, including the need to attend to the estate or other affairs of the deceased or his/her dependents; substantial damage to, or destruction of, the individual's home that causes a major disruption in the individual's normal living circumstances; criminal or civil proceedings against the individual or a family member; jury duty; and military service call-up.

Incapacitating – Any health circumstance that substantially impairs the ability of an individual to perform the job duties described for that individual's position in the RFP or the Contractor's Technical Proposal.

Sudden – When the Contractor has less than thirty (30) days' prior notice of a circumstance beyond its control that will require the replacement of any Key Personnel working under the Contract.

3.10.3 **Key Personnel General Substitution Provisions.** The following provisions apply to all of the circumstances of staff substitution described in paragraph 3.10.4 of this section.

1. The Contractor shall demonstrate to the Contract Monitor's satisfaction that the proposed substitute Key Personnel have qualifications at least equal to those of the Key Personnel for whom the replacement is requested.
2. The Contractor shall provide the Contract Monitor with a substitution request that shall include:
 - A detailed explanation of the reason(s) for the substitution request;
 - The resume of the proposed substitute personnel, signed by the substituting individual and his/her formal supervisor;
 - The official resume of the current personnel for comparison purposes; and
 - Any evidence of any required credentials.
3. The Contract Monitor may request additional information concerning the proposed substitution. In addition, the Contract Monitor and/or other appropriate State personnel involved with the Contract may interview the proposed substitute personnel prior to deciding whether to approve the substitution request.
4. The Contract Monitor will notify the Contractor in writing of: (i) the acceptance or denial, or (ii) contingent or temporary approval for a specified time limit, of the requested substitution. The Contract Monitor will not unreasonably withhold approval of a requested Key Personnel replacement.

3.10.4 **Replacement Circumstances**

3.10.4.1 **Voluntary Key Personnel Replacement.** To voluntarily replace any Key Personnel, the Contractor shall submit substitution request as described in paragraph 3.10.3 of this section to the Contract Monitor at least fifteen (15) days prior to the intended date of change. Except in a circumstance described in paragraph 3.10.4 (2) of this clause, a substitution may not occur unless and until the Contract Monitor approves the substitution in writing.

3.10.4.2 Key Personnel Replacement Due to Vacancy. The Contractor shall replace Key Personnel whenever a vacancy occurs due to the sudden termination, resignation, leave of absence due to an Extraordinary Personal Circumstance, Incapacitating injury, illness or physical condition, or death of such personnel. (A termination or resignation with thirty (30) days or more advance notice shall be treated as a Voluntary Key Personnel Replacement as per Section 3.10.4.1 of this section.).

Under any of the circumstances set forth in this paragraph 3.10.4.2, the Contractor shall identify a suitable replacement and provide the same information or items required under paragraph 3.10.3 of this section within fifteen (15) days of the actual vacancy occurrence or from when the Contractor first knew or should have known that the vacancy would be occurring, whichever is earlier.

3.10.4.3 Key Personnel Replacement Due to an Indeterminate Absence. If any Key Personnel has been absent from his/her job for a period of ten (10) days due to injury, illness, or other physical condition, leave of absence under a family medical leave, or an Extraordinary Personal Circumstance and it is not known or reasonably anticipated that the individual will be returning to work within the next twenty (20) days to fully resume all job duties, before the 25th day of continuous absence, the Contractor shall identify a suitable replacement and provide the same information or items to the Contract Monitor as required under paragraph 3.10.3 of this section.

However, if this person is available to return to work and fully perform all job duties before a replacement has been authorized by the Contract Monitor, at the option and sole discretion of the Contract Monitor, the original personnel may continue to work under the Contract, or the replacement personnel will be authorized to replace the original personnel, notwithstanding the original personnel's ability to return.

3.10.4.4 Directed Personnel Replacement.

3.10.4.4.1 The Contract Monitor may direct the Contractor to replace any personnel who are perceived as being unqualified, non-productive, unable to fully perform the job duties due to full or partial Incapacity or Extraordinary Personal Circumstance, disruptive, or known, or reasonably believed, to have committed a major infraction(s) of law, agency, or Contract requirements. Normally, a directed personnel replacement will occur only after prior notification of problems with requested remediation, as described in paragraph 3.10.4.4.2. If after such remediation the Contract Monitor determines that the personnel performance has not improved to the level necessary to continue under the Contract, if at all possible at least fifteen (15) days notification of a directed replacement will be provided. However, if the Contract Monitor deems it necessary and in the State's best interests to remove the personnel with less than fifteen (15) days' notice, the Contract Monitor can direct the removal in a timeframe of less than fifteen (15) days, including immediate removal.

In circumstances of directed removal, the Contractor shall, in accordance with paragraph 3.10.3 of this section, provide a suitable replacement for approval within fifteen (15) days of the notification of the need for removal, or the actual removal, whichever occurs first.

3.10.4.4.2 If deemed appropriate in the discretion of the Contract Monitor, the Contract Monitor shall give written notice of any personnel performance issues to the Contractor, describing the problem and delineating the remediation requirement(s). The Contractor shall provide a written Remediation Plan within ten (10) days of the date of the notice and shall implement the Remediation Plan immediately upon written acceptance by the Contract Monitor. If the Contract Monitor rejects the Remediation Plan, the Contractor shall revise and resubmit the plan to the Contract Monitor within five (5) days, or in the timeframe set forth by the Contract Monitor in writing.

Should performance issues persist despite the approved Remediation Plan, the Contract Monitor will give written notice of the continuing performance issues and either request a new Remediation Plan within a specified time limit or direct the substitution of personnel whose performance is at issue with a qualified substitute, including requiring the immediate removal of the Key Personnel at issue.

Replacement or substitution of personnel under this section shall be in addition to, and not in lieu of, the State's remedies under the Contract or which otherwise may be available at law or in equity.

SECTION 4 – PROCUREMENT INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Pre-Proposal Conference

A Pre-Proposal Conference (the Conference) will be held at the date, time, and location indicated on the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet (near the beginning of the solicitation, after the Title Page and Notice to Vendors). All prospective Offerors are encouraged to attend in order to facilitate better preparation of their Proposals.

The Conference will be summarized. As promptly as is feasible after the Conference, a summary of the Conference and all questions and answers known at that time will be distributed to all prospective Offerors known to have received a copy of this RFP. This summary, as well as the questions and answers, will also be posted on eMaryland Marketplace. See RFP Section 4.2.

In order to assure adequate seating and other accommodations at the Conference, please e-mail the Pre-Proposal Conference Response Form (**Attachment A**) to the attention of the Procurement Officer at least five (5) Business Days prior to the Pre-Proposal Conference date. In addition, if there is a need for sign language interpretation and/or other special accommodations due to a disability, please notify the Procurement Officer at least five (5) Business Days prior to the Pre-Proposal Conference date. The Department will make a reasonable effort to provide such special accommodation.

4.2 eMaryland Marketplace

Each Offeror is required to indicate its eMaryland Marketplace (eMM) vendor number in the Transmittal Letter (cover letter) submitted at the time of its Proposal submission to this RFP.

eMM is an electronic commerce system administered by the Maryland Department of General Services. In addition to using the Department's website <http://dhcd.maryland.gov/Procurement/> and possibly other means for transmitting the RFP and associated materials, solicitation and summary of the Pre-Proposal Conference, Offeror questions, and Procurement Officer's responses, addenda, and other solicitation-related information will be provided via eMM.

In order to receive a contract award, a vendor must be registered on eMM. Registration is free. Go to <https://emaryland.buyspeed.com/bsol/login.jsp>, click on "Register" to begin the process, and then follow the prompts.

4.3 Questions

Written questions from prospective Offerors will be accepted by the Procurement Officer prior to the Conference. If possible and appropriate, such questions will be answered at the Conference. (No substantive question will be answered prior to the Conference.) Questions to the Procurement Officer shall be submitted via e-mail to the Procurement Officer's e-mail address indicated on the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet (near the beginning of the solicitation, after the Title Page and Notice to Vendors). Please identify in the subject line the Solicitation Number and Title. Questions, both oral and written, will also be accepted from prospective Offerors attending the Conference. If possible and appropriate, these questions will be answered at the Conference.

Questions will also be accepted subsequent to the Conference and should be submitted to the Procurement Officer via email in a timely manner prior to the Proposal due date. Questions are requested to be submitted at least five (5) days prior to the Proposal due date. The Procurement Officer, based on the availability of time to research and communicate an answer, will decide whether an answer can be given before the Proposal due date. Time permitting, answers to all substantive questions that have not previously been answered, and are not clearly specific only to the requestor, will be distributed to all vendors that are known to have received a copy of the RFP in sufficient time for the answer to be taken into consideration in the Proposal.

4.4 Procurement Method

This Contract will be awarded in accordance with the Competitive Sealed Proposals method under COMAR 21.05.03.

4.5 Proposals Due (Closing) Date and Time

Proposals, in the number and form set forth in RFP Section 5.2 “Proposals” must be received by the Procurement Officer at the Procurement Officer’s address no later than the Proposal Due date and time indicated on the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet (near the beginning of the solicitation, after the Title Page and Notice to Vendors) in order to be considered.

Requests for extension of this time or date will not be granted. Offerors mailing Proposals should allow sufficient mail delivery time to ensure timely receipt by the Procurement Officer. Except as provided in COMAR 21.05.03.02.F and 21.05.02.10, Proposals received after the due date and time listed in the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet will not be considered.

Proposals may be modified or withdrawn by written notice received by the Procurement Officer before the time and date set forth in the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet for receipt of Proposals.

Proposals may not be submitted by e-mail or facsimile or any other electronic means. Proposals will not be opened publicly.

Vendors not responding to this solicitation are requested to submit the “Notice to Vendors” form, which includes company information and the reason for not responding (e.g., too busy, cannot meet mandatory requirements, etc.). This form is located in the RFP immediately following the Title Page (page ii).

4.6 Multiple or Alternate Proposals

Multiple and/or alternate Proposals will not be accepted.

4.7 Economy of Preparation

Proposals should be prepared simply and economically and provide a straightforward and concise description of the Offeror’s Proposal to meet the requirements of this RFP.

4.8 Public Information Act Notice

An Offeror should give specific attention to the clear identification of those portions of its Proposal that it considers to constitute trade secrets, confidential commercial information, or confidential financial information, and provide justification why Offeror believes that such materials, upon request, should not be disclosed by the State under the Public Information Act, Md. Code Ann., General Provisions Article, Title 4. (Also, see RFP Section 5.4.2.2 “Claim of Confidentiality”). Information that Offeror believes to trade secrets, confidential commercial information, or confidential financial information should be identified by page and section number and placed after the Title Page and before the Table of Contents in the Technical Proposal and if applicable, separately in the Financial Proposal.

Offerors are advised that, upon request for this information from a third party, the Custodian of Records of the Department will make independent determination whether the information must be disclosed, and will not be bound by the identifications made by Offeror.

4.9 Award Basis and Assignment of Work

For each Functional Area, a Contract will be awarded to the responsible Offerors submitting the Proposals that have been determined to be the most advantageous to the State, considering price and evaluation factors set forth in this RFP (see COMAR 21.05.03.03F), for providing the goods and services as specified in this RFP.

Offerors may submit a proposal that includes Functional Area I only, Functional Area II only, or both Functional Area I and Functional Area II. The Department may make up to twelve (12) awards for Functional Area I and up to ten (10) awards for Functional Area II. The two lowest ranked Offerors in each Functional Area may be designated as On Call as Needed status. See RFP Section 6 for further award information.

Funds will be allocated to each Contractor by Functional Area. For Year 1, allocation will be based on each Contractor's coverage area, production capacity, and overall evaluation rankings. Allocations for remaining years will be done on an annual basis, based on production capacity and Contractor performance in the previous year(s). Any Contractor awarded as On Call as Needed will not receive any allocation of funds.

Work will be assigned in order of rankings. The Department will consider the highest ranked Contractor in each Functional Area first for assignment of work in that Functional Area. If the Department determines that that Contractor cannot complete the work (due to location, capacity, etc.), the Department will consider the next highest ranked Contractor until the work is assigned.

While the Department will endeavor to assign work within each Contractor's preferred service territory based on a Contractor performance measure comprised of factors such as quality of work, customer service, consistency in reaching production goals and meeting project timelines, among others, the Department does not guarantee that all assignments will be within the preferred service territory.

4.10 Oral Presentation

Offerors may be required to make oral presentations to State representatives. Offerors must confirm in writing any substantive oral clarification of or change in their Proposals made in the course of discussions. Any such written clarifications or changes then become part of the Offeror's Proposal and are binding if the Contract is awarded. The Procurement Officer will notify Offerors of the time and place of oral presentations.

4.11 Duration of Proposal

Proposals submitted in response to this RFP are irrevocable for 120 days following the closing date for submission of Proposals or best and final offers (see Section 6.5.2.5) if requested. This period may be extended at the Procurement Officer's request only with the Offeror's written agreement.

4.12 Revisions to the RFP

If it becomes necessary to revise this RFP before the due date for Proposals, the Department shall endeavor to provide amendments to all prospective Offerors that were sent this RFP or which are otherwise known by the Procurement Officer to have obtained this RFP. In addition, amendments to the RFP will be posted on the Department's procurement web page and through eMM. It remains the responsibility of all prospective Offerors to check all applicable websites for any amendments issued prior to the submission of Proposals. Amendments made after the due date for Proposals will be sent only to those Offerors that submitted timely Proposals and that remain under award consideration as of the issuance date of the amendment.

Acknowledgment of the receipt of all amendments to this RFP issued before the Proposal due date shall be included in the Transmittal Letter accompanying the Offeror's Technical Proposal. Acknowledgement of the receipt of amendments to the RFP issued after the Proposal due date shall be in the manner specified in the amendment notice. Failure to

acknowledge receipt of an amendment does not relieve the Offeror from complying with the terms, additions, deletions, or corrections set forth in the amendment.

4.13 Cancellations

The State reserves the right to cancel this RFP, accept or reject any and all Proposals, in whole or in part, received in response to this RFP, waive or permit the cure of minor irregularities, and conduct discussions with all qualified or potentially qualified Offerors in any manner necessary to serve the best interests of the State. The State also reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to award a Contract based upon the written Proposals received without discussions or negotiations.

In the event that a government entity proposes and receives the recommendation for award for the Contract resulting from this RFP, the procurement may be cancelled and the award processed as a Memorandum of Understanding in accordance with COMAR 21.01.03.01.A(4).

4.14 Incurred Expenses

The State will not be responsible for any costs incurred by any Offeror in preparing and submitting a Proposal, in making an oral presentation, providing a demonstration, or performing any other activities related to submitting a Proposal in response to this solicitation.

4.15 Protest/Disputes

Any protest or dispute related, respectively, to this solicitation or the resulting Contract shall be subject to the provisions of COMAR 21.10 (Administrative and Civil Remedies).

4.16 Offeror Responsibilities

The selected Offeror shall be responsible for all products and services required by this RFP. All subcontractors must be identified and a complete description of their role relative to the Proposal must be included in the Offeror's Proposal. If applicable, subcontractors utilized in meeting the established MBE or VSBE participation goal(s) for this solicitation shall be identified as provided in the appropriate Attachment(s) to this RFP (see Section 4.26 "Minority Business Enterprise Goals" and Section 4.27 "Veteran-Owned Small Business Enterprise Goal").

If an Offeror that seeks to perform or provide the services required by this RFP is the subsidiary of another entity, all information submitted by the Offeror, including but not limited to references, financial reports, or experience and documentation (e.g. insurance policies, bonds, letters of credit) used to meet minimum qualifications, if any, shall pertain exclusively to the Offeror, unless the parent organization will guarantee the performance of the subsidiary. If applicable, the Offeror shall submit with its Proposal an explicit statement, signed by an authorized representative of the parent organization, stating that the parent organization will guarantee the performance of the subsidiary.

A parental guarantee of the performance of the Offeror under this Section will not automatically result in crediting the Offeror with the experience and/or qualifications of the parent under any evaluation criteria pertaining to the Offeror's experience and qualifications. Instead, the Offeror will be evaluated on the extent to which the State determines that the experience and qualification of the parent are transferred to and shared with the Offeror, the parent is directly involved in the performance of the Contract, and the value of the parent's participation as determined by the State.

4.17 Mandatory Contractual Terms

By submitting a Proposal in response to this RFP, an Offeror, if selected for award, shall be deemed to have accepted the terms and conditions of this RFP and the Contract, attached herein as **Attachment M**. Any exceptions to this RFP or the Contract shall be clearly identified in the Executive Summary of the Technical Proposal. **A Proposal that takes**

exception to these terms may be rejected (see RFP Section 5.4.2.4).

4.18 Proposal Affidavit

A Proposal submitted by an Offeror must be accompanied by a completed Proposal Affidavit. A copy of this Affidavit is included as **Attachment C** of this RFP.

4.19 Contract Affidavit

All Offerors are advised that if a Contract is awarded as a result of this solicitation, the successful Offeror will be required to complete a Contract Affidavit, a copy which is included as **Attachment N** to this RFP. This Affidavit must be provided within five (5) Business Days of notification of proposed Contract award. The Contractor must also submit a Contract Affidavit with any Contract renewal, including the exercise of any options or modifications that may extend the Contract term. For purposes of completing Section “B” of the Contract Affidavit (Certification of Registration or Qualification with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation), a business entity that is organized outside of the State of Maryland is considered a “foreign” business.

4.20 Compliance with Laws/Arrearages

By submitting a Proposal in response to this RFP, the Offeror, if selected for award, agrees that it will comply with all federal, State, and local laws applicable to its activities and obligations under the Contract, including acquiring permits where required and installing materials in accordance with current building Code.

By submitting a response to this solicitation, each Offeror represents that it is not in arrears in the payment of any obligations due and owing the State, including the payment of taxes and employee benefits, and shall not become so in arrears during the term of the Contract if selected for Contract award.

4.21 Verification of Registration and Tax Payment

Before a business entity can do business in the State, it must be registered with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT). SDAT is located at State Office Building, Room 803, 301 West Preston Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201. For registration information, visit <https://www.egov.maryland.gov/businessexpress>.

It is strongly recommended that any potential Offeror complete registration prior to the due date for receipt of Proposals. An Offeror’s failure to complete registration with SDAT may disqualify an otherwise successful Offeror from final consideration and recommendation for Contract award.

4.22 False Statements

Offerors are advised that Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, § 11-205.1 provides as follows:

- (a) In connection with a procurement contract a person may not willfully:
 - (1) falsify, conceal, or suppress a material fact by any scheme or device;
 - (2) make a false or fraudulent statement or representation of a material fact; or
 - (3) use a false writing or document that contains a false or fraudulent statement or entry of a material fact.
- (b) A person may not aid or conspire with another person to commit an act under subsection (a) of this section.
- (c) A person who violates any provision of this section is guilty of a felony and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$20,000 or imprisonment not exceeding 5 years or both.

4.23 Payments by Electronic Funds Transfer

By submitting a response to this solicitation, the Offeror agrees to accept payments by electronic funds transfer (EFT) unless the State Comptroller's Office grants an exemption. Payment by EFT is mandatory for contracts exceeding \$200,000. The selected Offeror shall register using the COT/GAD X-10 Vendor Electronic Funds (EFT) Registration Request Form. Any request for exemption must be submitted to the State Comptroller's Office for approval at the address specified on the COT/GAD X-10 form, must include the business identification information as stated on the form, and must include the reason for the exemption. The COT/GAD X-10 form may be downloaded from the Comptroller's website at:

http://comptroller.marylandtaxes.com/Government_Services/State_Accounting_Information/Static_Files/APM/X-1020130407.pdf.

4.24 Prompt Payment Policy

This procurement and the Contract(s) to be awarded pursuant to this solicitation are subject to the Prompt Payment Policy Directive issued by the Governor's Office of Small, Minority and Women Business Affairs (GOSBA) and dated August 1, 2008. Promulgated pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, §§ 11-201, 13-205(a), and Title 14, Subtitle 3, and COMAR 21.01.01.03 and 21.11.03.01, the Directive seeks to ensure the prompt payment of all subcontractors on non-construction procurement contracts. The Contractor shall comply with the prompt payment requirements outlined in the Contract "Prompt Payment" clause (see **Attachment M**). Additional information is available on GOSBA's website at:

<http://goma.maryland.gov/Documents/Legislation/PromptPaymentFAQs.pdf>.

4.25 Electronic Procurements Authorized

- 4.25.1 Under COMAR 21.03.05, unless otherwise prohibited by law, the Department may conduct procurement transactions by electronic means, including the solicitation, proposing, award, execution, and administration of a contract, as provided in Md. Code Ann., Maryland Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, Commercial Law Article, Title 21.
- 4.25.2 Participation in the solicitation process on a procurement contract for which electronic means has been authorized shall constitute consent by the Offeror to conduct by electronic means all elements of the procurement of that Contract which are specifically authorized under the solicitation or Contract.
- 4.25.3 "Electronic means" refers to exchanges or communications using electronic, digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic, or other means of electronically conducting transactions. Electronic means includes facsimile, e-mail, internet-based communications, electronic funds transfer, specific electronic bidding platforms (e.g., <https://emaryland.buyspeed.com/bsa/>), and electronic data interchange.
- 4.25.4 In addition to specific electronic transactions specifically authorized in other sections of this solicitation (e.g., RFP § 4.23 "Payments by Electronic Funds Transfer") and subject to the exclusions noted in section 4.25.5 of this subsection, the following transactions are authorized to be conducted by electronic means on the terms described:
- 4.25.4.1 The Procurement Officer may conduct the procurement using eMM, e-mail, or facsimile to issue:
- (a) The solicitation (e.g., the RFP);
 - (b) Any amendments;
 - (c) Pre-Proposal conference documents;
 - (d) Questions and responses;
 - (e) Communications regarding the solicitation or Proposal to any Offeror or potential Offeror;
 - (f) Notices of award selection or non-selection; and
 - (g) The Procurement Officer's decision on any Proposal protest or Contract claim.

4.25.4.2 An Offeror or potential Offeror may use e-mail or facsimile to:

- (a) Ask questions regarding the solicitation;
- (b) Reply to any material received from the Procurement Officer by electronic means that includes a Procurement Officer's request or direction to reply by e-mail or facsimile, but only on the terms specifically approved and directed by the Procurement Officer; and
- (c) Submit a "No Proposal Response" to the solicitation.

4.25.4.3 The Procurement Officer, the Contract Monitor, and the Contractor may conduct day-to-day Contract administration, except as outlined in Section E of this subsection utilizing e-mail, facsimile, or other electronic means if authorized by the Procurement Officer or Contract Monitor.

4.25.5 The following transactions related to this procurement and any Contract awarded pursuant to it are *not authorized* to be conducted by electronic means:

- (a) Submission of initial Proposals;
- (b) Filing of Proposal Protests;
- (c) Filing of Contract Claims;
- (d) Submission of documents determined by the Department to require original signatures (e.g., Contract execution, Contract modifications, etc.); or
- (e) Any transaction, submission, or communication where the Procurement Officer has specifically directed that a response from the Contractor or Offeror be provided in writing or hard copy.

4.25.6 Any facsimile or e-mail transmission is only authorized to the facsimile numbers or e-mail addresses for the identified person as provided in the solicitation, Contract, or direction from the Procurement Officer or Contract Monitor.

4.26 Minority Business Enterprise Goals

4.26.1 Establishment of Goal and Subgoals. A Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) subcontractor participation goal has been established for this solicitation for each Functional Area as follows:

For Functional Area I: 20%.

For Functional Area II: 15%.

There are no MBE subcontractor participation subgoals for this procurement.

4.26.2 Attachments D-1 to D-5 –Minority Business Enterprise participation instructions, and forms are provided to assist Offerors. **An Offeror must properly complete and submit a separate Attachment D-1A, MBE Utilization and Fair Solicitation Affidavit & MBE Participation Schedule, for EACH Functional Area for which it is submitting a proposal. If an Offeror is submitting a proposal for each of Functional Areas I and II, the Offeror must submit two separate Attachment D-1As, one for each of the two Functional Areas.**

An Offeror that does not commit to meeting the entire MBE participation goal outlined in this Section 4.26 must submit a request for waiver with its proposal submission that is supported by good faith efforts documentation to meet the MBE goal made prior to submission of its proposal as outlined in Attachment D-1B, Waiver Guidance. Failure of an Offeror to properly complete, sign, and submit Attachment D-1A at the time it submits its Technical Response(s) to the RFP will result in the State's rejection of the Offeror's Proposal for the applicable Functional Area. This failure is not curable.

The Minority Business Enterprise participation instructions, and forms include the following:

Attachment D-1A MBE Utilization and Fair Solicitation Affidavit & MBE Participation Schedule (**must be submitted with Proposal**).

Attachment D-1B	Waiver Guidance
Attachment D-1C	Good Faith Efforts Documentation to Support Waiver Request
Attachment D-2	Outreach Efforts Compliance Statement
Attachment D-3A	MBE Subcontractor Project Participation Certification
Attachment D-3B	MBE Prime Project Participation Certification
Attachment D-4A	Prime Contractor Paid/Unpaid MBE Invoice Report
Attachment D-4B	MBE Prime Contractor Report
Attachment D-5	Subcontractor/Contractor Unpaid MBE Invoice Report

4.26.3 An Offeror shall include with its Proposal a completed MBE Utilization and Fair Solicitation Affidavit (**Attachment D-1A**) whereby:

- (a) The Offeror acknowledges the certified MBE participation goal and commits to make a good faith effort to achieve the goal and any applicable subgoals, or requests a waiver, and affirms that MBE subcontractors were treated fairly in the solicitation process; and
- (b) The Offeror responds to the expected degree of MBE participation, as stated in the solicitation, by identifying the specific commitment of certified MBEs at the time of Proposal submission. The Offeror shall specify the percentage of total contract value associated with each MBE subcontractor identified on the MBE participation schedule, including any work performed by the MBE Prime (including a Prime participating as a joint venture) to be counted towards meeting the MBE participation goals.
- (c) An Offeror requesting a waiver should review Attachment D-1B (Waiver Guidance) and D-1C (Good Faith Efforts Documentation to Support Waiver Request) prior to submitting its request.

If an Offeror fails to submit a completed Attachment D-1A with a Proposal as required, the Procurement Officer shall determine that the Proposal is not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award.

4.26.4 Offerors are responsible for verifying that each MBE (including any MBE Prime and/or MBE Prime participating in a joint venture) selected to meet the goal and any subgoals and subsequently identified in **Attachment D-1A** is appropriately certified and has the correct NAICS codes allowing it to perform the committed work.

4.26.5 Within ten (10) Business Days from notification that it is the recommended awardee or from the date of the actual award, whichever is earlier, the Offeror must provide the following documentation to the Procurement Officer.

- (a) Outreach Efforts Compliance Statement (**Attachment D-2**);
- (b) MBE Subcontractor/Prime Project Participation Certification (**Attachment D-3A/3B**); and
- (c) Any other documentation required by the Procurement Officer to ascertain Offeror responsibility in connection with the certified MBE subcontractor participation goal or any applicable subgoals.

Further, if the recommended awardee believes a waiver (in whole or in part) of the overall MBE goal or of any applicable subgoal is necessary, the recommended awardee must submit a fully-documented waiver request that complies with COMAR 21.11.03.11.

If the recommended awardee fails to return each completed document within the required time, the Procurement Officer may determine that the recommended awardee is not responsible and, therefore, not eligible for Contract award. If the Contract has already been awarded, the award is voidable.

4.26.6 A current directory of certified MBEs is available through the Maryland State Department of Transportation (MDOT), Office of Minority Business Enterprise, 7201 Corporate Center Drive, Hanover, Maryland 21076. The phone numbers are (410) 865-1269, 1-800-544-6056, or TTY (410) 865-1342. The directory is also available on the MDOT website at <http://mbe.mdot.maryland.gov/directory/>. The most current and up-to-date information on MBEs is available via this website. **Only MDOT-certified MBEs may be used to meet the MBE subcontracting goals.**

4.26.7 The Contractor, once awarded a Contract, will be responsible for submitting or requiring its subcontractor(s) to submit the following forms to provide the State with ongoing monitoring of MBE participation:

- (a) **Attachment D-4A** (Prime Contractor Paid/Unpaid MBE Invoice Report);
- (b) **Attachment D-4B** (MBE Prime Contractor Report, *if applicable*); and
- (c) **Attachment D-5** (MBE Subcontractor Unpaid MBE Invoice Report).

4.26.8 An Offeror that requested a waiver of the goal or any of the applicable subgoals will be responsible for submitting the Good Faith Efforts Documentation to Support Waiver Request (**Attachment D-1C**) and all documentation within ten (10) Business Days from notification that it is the recommended awardee or from the date of the actual award, whichever is earlier, as required in COMAR 21.11.03.11.

4.26.9 All documents, including the MBE Utilization and Fair Solicitation Affidavit & MBE Participation Schedule (**Attachment D-1A**), completed and submitted by the Offeror in connection with its certified MBE participation commitment shall be considered a part of the resulting Contract and are hereby expressly incorporated into the Contract by reference thereto. All of the referenced documents will be considered a part of the Proposal for order of precedence purposes (see Contract – **Attachment M**, Section 2.1).

4.26.10 The Offeror is advised that liquidated damages will apply in the event the Contractor fails to comply in good faith with the requirements of the MBE program and pertinent Contract provisions. (See Contract – **Attachment M**, “Liquidated Damages” clause).

4.26.11 As set forth in COMAR 21.11.03.12-1(D), when a certified MBE firm participates on a Contract as a Prime Contractor (including a joint-venture where the MBE firm is a partner), a procurement agency may count the distinct, clearly defined portion of the work of the contract that the certified MBE firm performs with its own work force towards fulfilling up to fifty-percent (50%) of the MBE participation goal (overall) and up to one hundred percent (100%) of not more than one of the MBE participation sub-goals, if any, established for the contract.

In order to receive credit for self-performance, an MBE Prime must list its firm in Section 4A of the MBE Participation Schedule (**Attachment D-1A**) and include information regarding the work it will self-perform. For the remaining portion of the overall goal and the sub-goals, the MBE Prime must also identify certified MBE subcontractors (see Section 4B of the MBE Participation Schedule (**Attachment D-1A**)) used to meet those goals. If dually-certified, the MBE Prime can be designated as only one of the MBE sub-goal classifications but can self-perform up to 100% of the stated sub-goal.

As set forth in COMAR 21.11.03.12-1, once the Contract work begins, the work performed by a certified MBE firm, including an MBE Prime, can only be counted towards the MBE participation goal(s) if the MBE firm is performing a commercially useful function on the Contract.

4.26.12 With respect to Contract administration, the Contractor shall:

- (1) Submit to the Department’s designated representative by the 10th of the month following the reporting period:
 - a. A Prime Contractor Paid/Unpaid MBE Invoice Report (**Attachment D-4A**) listing any unpaid invoices, over 45 days old, received from any certified MBE subcontractor, the amount of each invoice and the reason payment has not been made; and
 - b. (If Applicable) An MBE Prime Contractor Report (**Attachment D-4B**) identifying an MBE Prime’s self-performing work to be counted towards the MBE participation goals.
- (2) Include in its agreements with its certified MBE subcontractors a requirement that those subcontractors submit to the Department’s designated representative by the 10th of the month following the reporting period an MBE Subcontractor Paid/Unpaid Invoice Report (**Attachment D-5**) that identifies the Contract and lists all payments to the MBE subcontractor received from the Contractor in the preceding reporting period month, as well as any outstanding invoices, and the amounts of those invoices.
- (3) Maintain such records as are necessary to confirm compliance with its MBE participation obligations. These records must indicate the identity of certified minority and non-minority subcontractors employed on the Contract, type of work performed by each, and actual dollar value of work performed. Subcontract agreements documenting the work performed by all MBE participants must be retained by the Contractor and furnished to

the Procurement Officer on request.

- (4) Consent to provide such documentation as reasonably requested and right-of-entry at reasonable times for purposes of the State's representatives verifying compliance with the MBE participation obligations. Contractor must retain all records concerning MBE participation and make them available for State inspection for three years after final completion of the Contract.
- (5) Upon completion of the Contract and before final payment and/or release of retainage, submit a final report in affidavit form and under penalty of perjury, of all payments made to, or withheld from MBE subcontractors.

4.27 Veteran-Owned Small Business Enterprise Goal

There is no Veteran-Owned Small Business Enterprise (VSBE) participation goal for this procurement.

4.28 Living Wage Requirements

- 4.28.1 Maryland law requires that Contractors meeting certain conditions pay a living wage to covered employees on State service contracts over \$100,000. Maryland Code, State Finance and Procurement, § 18-101 *et al.* The Commissioner of Labor and Industry at the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation requires that a Contractor subject to the Living Wage law submit payroll records for covered employees and a signed statement indicating that it paid a living wage to covered employees; or receive a waiver from Living Wage reporting requirements. *See* COMAR 21.11.10.05.
- 4.28.2 If subject to the Living Wage law, Contractor agrees that it will abide by all Living Wage law requirements, including but not limited to reporting requirements in COMAR 21.11.10.05. Contractor understands that failure of Contractor to provide such documents is a material breach of the terms and conditions and may result in Contract termination, disqualification by the State from participating in State contracts, and other sanctions. See the "Living Wage" clause in the Contract (**Attachment M**).
- 4.28.3 Additional information regarding the State's living wage requirement is contained in **Attachment F**. Offerors must complete and submit the Maryland Living Wage Requirements Affidavit of Agreement (**Attachment F-1**) with their Proposals. If an Offeror fails to complete and submit the required documentation, the State may determine the Offeror to be not responsible under State law.
- 4.28.4 Contractors and subcontractors subject to the Living Wage Law shall pay each covered employee at least the minimum amount set by law for the applicable Tier area. The specific living wage rate is determined by whether a majority of services take place in a Tier 1 Area or Tier 2 Area of the State. The Tier 1 Area includes Montgomery, Prince George's, Howard, Anne Arundel and Baltimore Counties, and Baltimore City. The Tier 2 Area includes any county in the State not included in the Tier 1 Area. In the event that the employees who perform the services are not located in the State, the head of the unit responsible for a State Contract pursuant to §18-102(d) of the State Finance and Procurement Article shall assign the tier based upon where the recipients of the services are located.
- 4.28.5 The Contract resulting from this solicitation will be determined to be a Tier 1 Contract or a Tier 2 Contract depending on the location(s) from which the Contractor provides 50% or more of the services. The Offeror must identify in its Proposal the location(s) from which services will be provided, including the location(s) from which 50% or more of the Contract services will be provided.
 - (1) If the Contractor provides 50% or more of the services from a location(s) in a Tier 1 jurisdiction(s) the Contract will be a Tier 1 Contract.
 - (2) If the Contractor provides 50% or more of the services from a location(s) in a Tier 2 jurisdiction(s), the Contract will be a Tier 2 Contract.
 - (3) If the Contractor provides more than 50% of the services from an out-of-State location, the State agency determines the wage tier based on where the majority of the service recipients are located. In this

circumstance, this Contract will be determined to be a Tier 1 Contract.

4.28.6 Information pertaining to reporting obligations may be found by going to the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR) website: <http://www.dllr.state.md.us/labor/prev/livingwage.shtml>.

NOTE: Whereas the Living Wage may change annually, the Contract price may not be changed because of a Living Wage change.

4.29 Federal Funding Acknowledgement

4.29.1 There are programmatic conditions that apply to this Contract due to federal funding. (See **Attachment G**).

4.29.2 The Contract resulting from this procurement may at times be funded with federal funds. The source of these federal funds is the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program and the CFDA number is: 93.568. The conditions that apply to all federal funds awarded by the Department are contained in Federal Funds **Attachment G**. Any additional conditions that apply to this particular federally-funded contract are contained as supplements to Federal Funds **Attachment G** and Offerors are to complete and submit these Attachments with their Proposals as instructed in the Attachments. Acceptance of this agreement indicates the Offeror's intent to comply with all conditions, which are part of this Contract.

4.30 Conflict of Interest Affidavit and Disclosure

Offerors shall complete and sign the Conflict of Interest Affidavit and Disclosure (**Attachment H**) and submit it with their Proposals. All Offerors are advised that if a Contract is awarded as a result of this solicitation, the Contractor's personnel who perform or control work under this Contract and each of the participating subcontractor personnel who perform or control work under this Contract shall be required to complete agreements substantially similar to **Attachment H**, Conflict of Interest Affidavit and Disclosure. For policies and procedures applying specifically to Conflict of Interests, the Contract is governed by COMAR 21.05.08.08.

4.31 Non-Disclosure Agreement

All Offerors are advised that this solicitation and any resultant Contract(s) are subject to the terms of the Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) contained in this solicitation as **Attachment I**. This Agreement must be provided within five (5) Business Days of notification of proposed Contract award. However, to expedite processing, it is suggested that this document be completed and submitted with the Proposal.

4.32 HIPAA - Business Associate Agreement

This solicitation does not require a HIPAA Business Associate Agreement.

4.33 Nonvisual Access

This solicitation does not contain Information Technology (IT) provisions requiring Non-visual Access.

4.34 Mercury and Products That Contain Mercury

This solicitation does not include the procurement of products known to likely include mercury as a component.

4.35 Location of the Performance of Services Disclosure

This solicitation does not require a Location of the Performance of Services Disclosure.

4.36 Department of Human Services (DHS) Hiring Agreement

This solicitation does not require a DHS Hiring Agreement.

4.37 Small Business Reserve (SBR) Procurement

This solicitation is not designated as a Small Business Reserve (SBR) Procurement.

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SECTION 5 – PROPOSAL FORMAT

5.1 Two Part Submission

Offerors shall submit Proposals in separate volumes:

- Volume I – TECHNICAL PROPOSAL
- Volume II – FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

5.2 Proposals

5.2.1 Volume I – Technical Proposal, and Volume II – Financial Proposal shall be sealed separately from one another. It is preferred, but not required, that the name, email address, and telephone number of a contact person for the Offeror be included on the outside of the packaging for each volume. Each Volume shall contain an unbound original, so identified, and five (5) copies. Unless the resulting package will be too unwieldy, the Department's preference is for the two (2) sealed Volumes to be submitted together in a single package including a label bearing:

- (1) RFP title and number,
- (2) Name and address of the Offeror, and
- (3) Closing date and time for receipt of Proposals

to the Procurement Officer (see RFP Key Information Summary Sheet) prior to the date and time for receipt of Proposals (see RFP Section 4.4 "Proposals Due (Closing) Date and Time").

5.2.2 An electronic version (on Compact Disk/CD, Digital Versatile Disc/DVD, or Universal Serial Bus/USB Flash/Thumb Drive) of Volume I - Technical Proposal in Microsoft Word format must be enclosed with the original Volume I - Technical Proposal submission. An electronic version (on CD, DVD, or USB Flash Drive) of Volume II - Financial Proposal in Microsoft Excel format must be enclosed with the original Volume II - Financial Proposal submission. Each CD/DVD/USB Flash Drive must be labeled on the outside with the RFP title and number, name of the Offeror, and volume number. Each CD/DVD/USB Flash Drive must be packaged with the original copy of the appropriate Proposal (Technical or Financial). In the event of any discrepancy between the hard copy and electronic versions of an Offeror's Proposal, the State shall determine the controlling version in accordance with the State's interests.

5.2.3 A second electronic version of Volume I and Volume II in searchable Adobe .pdf format must be submitted on CD, DVD, or USB Flash Drive if Offeror claims any information in the proposal constitutes confidential commercial information, confidential financial information, or any other information not subject to disclosure under the Public Information Act (PIA). This copy shall be annotated to identify any claimed confidential trade secrets, commercial information or confidential financial information, that the Contractor believes should be exempt from disclosure under the PIA (see RFP Section 4.8 "Public Information Act Notice").

5.2.4 Beginning with Tab B (see RFP Section 5.4.2.3), all pages of both Proposal volumes shall be consecutively-numbered from beginning (Page 1) to end (Page "x"). The Title Page, Table of Contents, and any Claim of Confidentiality (Tabs A and A-1; see RFP Sections 5.4.2.1 and 5.4.2.2), should be numbered using romanettes (ex. i, ii, iii, iv, v, etc.).

5.2.5 Proposals and any modifications to Proposals will be shown only to State employees, members of the Evaluation Committee, and other persons deemed by the Department to have a legitimate interest in them.

5.3 Delivery

Offerors may either mail or hand-deliver Proposals.

5.3.1 For U.S. Postal Service deliveries, any Proposal that has been received at the appropriate mailroom, or typical

place of mail receipt, for the respective procuring unit by the time and date listed in the RFP will be deemed to be timely. If an Offeror chooses to use the U.S. Postal Service for delivery, the Department recommends that it use Express Mail, Priority Mail, or Certified Mail only as these are the only forms for which both the date and time of receipt can be verified by the Department. It could take several days for an item sent by first class mail to make its way by normal internal mail to the procuring unit and an Offeror using first class mail will not be able to prove a timely delivery at the mailroom.

- 5.3.2 Hand-delivery includes delivery by commercial carrier acting as agent for the Offeror. For any type of direct (non-mail) delivery, an Offeror is advised to secure a dated, signed, and time-stamped (or otherwise indicated) receipt of delivery.
- 5.3.3 After receipt, a Register of Proposals will be prepared that identifies each Offeror. The Register of Proposals will be open to inspection only after the Procurement Officer makes a determination recommending the award of the Contract.

5.4 Volume I – Technical Proposal

Note: No pricing information is to be included in the Technical Proposal (Volume I). Pricing information is to be included only in the Financial Proposal (Volume II).

- 5.4.1 **Format of Technical Proposal.** Inside a sealed package described in Section 5.2 “Proposals,” the unbound original, four (4) copies, and the electronic version shall be provided. The RFP sections are numbered for ease of reference. Section 5.4.2 sets forth the order of information to be provided in the Technical Proposal, e.g., Section 5.4.2.1 “Title and Table of Contents,” Section 5.4.2.2 “Claim of Confidentiality,” Section 5.4.2.3 “Transmittal Letter,” Section 5.4.2.4 “Executive Summary,” etc. In addition to the instructions below, responses in the Offeror’s Technical Proposal should reference the organization and numbering of Sections in the RFP (ex. “Section 2.2.1 Response . . . ; “Section 2.2.2 Response . . .,” etc.). This Proposal organization will allow State officials and the Evaluation Committee (see RFP Section 6.1) to “map” Offeror responses directly to RFP requirements by Section number and will aid in the evaluation process.
Failure to respond in the format described in this section may cause a reduction in the Offerors overall score.
- 5.4.2 **The Technical Proposal** shall include the following documents and information in the order specified as follows. Each section of the Technical Proposal shall be separated by a TAB as detailed below:
 - 5.4.2.1 **Title Page and Table of Contents (Submit under TAB A).** The Technical Proposal should begin with a Title Page bearing the name and address of the Offeror and the name and number of this RFP. A Table of Contents shall follow the Title Page for the Technical Proposal, organized by section, subsection, and page number.
 - 5.4.2.2 **Submission and Claim of Confidentiality**
 - 5.4.2.2.1 **Submission (Submit under TAB A-1).** Offerors must state whether they are submitting proposals for (a) Functional Area I only, (b) Functional Area II only, or (c) both Functional Area I and Functional Area II.
 - 5.4.2.2.2 **Claim of Confidentiality (If Applicable, Submit under TAB A-2)** Any information which is claimed to be confidential is to be noted by reference and included after the Title Page and before the Table of Contents, and if applicable, also in the Offeror’s Financial Proposal. An explanation for each claim of confidentiality shall be included (see Section 4.8 “Public Information Act Notice”). The entire Proposal should not be given a blanket confidentiality designation. Any confidentiality designation must apply to specific sections, pages, or portions of pages of the Proposal. Offerors are advised that, upon request for information from a third party, the Custodian of Records of the Department will make independent determination whether the information must be disclosed, and will not be bound by the

identifications made by Offeror.

5.4.2.3 Transmittal Letter (Submit under TAB B). A Transmittal Letter shall accompany the Technical Proposal. The purpose of this letter is to transmit the Proposal and acknowledge the receipt of any addenda. The Transmittal Letter should be brief and signed by an individual who is authorized to commit the Offeror to the services and requirements as stated in this RFP. The Transmittal Letter should include the following:

- (1) Name and address of the Offeror;
- (2) Name, title, e-mail address, and telephone number of primary contact for the Offeror;
- (3) Solicitation Title and Solicitation Number that the Proposal is in response to;
- (4) Signature, typed name, and title of an individual authorized to commit the Offeror to its Proposal;
- (5) Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) of the Offeror, or if a single individual, that individual's Social Security Number (SSN);
- (6) Offeror's eMM number;
- (7) Offeror's MBE certification number (if applicable);
- (8) Acceptance of all State RFP and Contract terms and conditions (see Section 4.17); if any exceptions are taken, they are to be noted in the Executive Summary (see Section 5.4.2.4); and
- (9) Acknowledgement of all amendments to this RFP.

5.4.2.4 Executive Summary (Submit under TAB C). The Offeror shall condense and highlight the contents of the Technical Proposal in a separate section titled "Executive Summary." In addition, the Summary shall indicate whether the Offeror is the subsidiary of another entity, and if so, whether all information submitted by the Offeror pertains exclusively to the Offeror. If not, the subsidiary Offeror shall include a guarantee of performance from its parent organization as part of its Executive Summary.

The Summary shall also identify any exceptions the Offeror has taken to the requirements of this RFP, the Contract (Attachment M), or any other attachments. Exceptions to terms and conditions may result in having the Proposal deemed unacceptable or classified as not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award.

If the Offeror has taken no exceptions to the requirements of this RFP, the Contract (Attachment M), or any other attachments, the Executive Summary shall so state.

5.4.2.5 Minimum Qualifications Documentation (If applicable, Submit under TAB D). The Offeror shall submit any Minimum Qualifications documentation that may be required, as set forth in RFP Section 1, "Minimum Qualifications."

5.4.2.6 Offeror Technical Response to RFP Requirements and Proposed Work Plan (Submit under TAB E).

5.4.2.6.1 The Offeror shall address each Scope of Work requirement (RFP Section 2) in its Technical Proposal and describe how its proposed services, including the services of any proposed subcontractor(s), will meet or exceed the requirement(s). If the State is seeking Offeror agreement to any requirement(s), the Offeror shall state its agreement or disagreement. Any paragraph in the Technical Proposal that responds to a Scope of Work requirement shall include an explanation of how the work will be done. Any exception to a requirement, term, or condition may result in having the Proposal classified as not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award or the Offeror deemed not responsible.

5.4.2.6.2 The Offeror shall give a definitive **section-by-section** description of the proposed plan to meet the requirements of the RFP, i.e., a Work Plan. The Work Plan shall include the specific methodology, techniques, and number of staff, if applicable, to be used by the Offeror in providing the required services as outlined in RFP Section 2, Scope of Work. The description shall include an outline of the overall management concepts employed by the Offeror and a project management plan, including project control mechanisms and overall timelines. Project

deadlines considered contract deliverables must be recognized in the Work Plan.

- 5.4.2.6.3 The Offeror shall identify the location(s) from which it proposes to provide the services, including, if applicable, any current facilities that it operates, and any required construction to satisfy the State's requirements as outlined in this RFP.
- 5.4.2.6.4 The Offeror shall provide, in this section, a draft Problem Escalation Procedure (PEP) as specified in Section 3.3.
- 5.4.2.6.5 The Offeror shall provide a description of financial management tools, policies, and practices to achieve a high level of quality and accuracy administering the program. Include a description of practices to distribute funds to subcontractors and vendors in a timely and effective manner. Describe internal budget management practices. Include a description of your process to manage inventory and track and maintain equipment as required under 2.3.3.6.2. Provide photos with serial numbers for the unit with corresponding calibration dates, results, and expiration.
- 5.4.2.6.6 The Offeror shall provide a schedule of events and activities that the Offeror feels are required in order to begin performing the services outlined in Section 2.3 of this RFP according to the deadlines established by the RFP.
- 5.4.2.6.7 The Offeror shall provide a detailed description of the Offeror's procedures for assuring meeting program guidelines. Describe the quality control procedures relating to measures installed and on administrative functions, time and cost control, and meeting deadlines.

Responses should illustrate a comprehensive understanding of work requirements and mastery of the subject matter, including an explanation of how the work will be done. Limited responses to work requirements such as "concur", or "will comply", or reference to DHCD's knowledge about the Offeror's performance are insufficient.

5.4.2.7 Offeror Production Capacity (Submitted Under Tab F).

- 5.4.2.7.1 The Offeror shall provide proof of documented production capacity based upon actual production in the last three years in providing weatherization and energy efficiency services for the Department or for similar programs outside of the Department. A reference to proof already in possession of the Department is not sufficient.
- 5.4.2.7.2 The Offeror shall provide a three (3) year production forecast on a month to month basis (by housing type served - single family/multi-family, and a minimum of 15/month), forecasted conversion rate, and the Offeror's plan to meet the conversion and production forecasts. Please discuss how forecasts will be met if past experience demonstrates that the forecasts are above the average achieved in past renditions of this or similar programs. A reference to proof already in possession of the Department is not sufficient.
- 5.4.2.7.3 Identify and describe all obligations to perform the work described in Section 3 of this RFP or similar services for other programs or organizations and how the production forecasts stated under 5.4.2.7.2 will be met despite other contractual obligations. The narrative must include a plan for managing variations in production. The plan should identify hiring, training and professional development, and how the Offeror will manage quality control when new staffs are added in the field or administrative functions.
- 5.4.2.7.4 The Offeror shall indicate the service territories, by County, in which it prefers to provide services, using the form provided in Appendix 3. However, the services sought are for statewide services and the Department does not guarantee all work assigned will be in a preferred area. The Department encourages Offerors to indicate coverage over a large number of regions throughout Maryland, as well as performance of work in remote areas of Western and Southern Maryland, as well as the Eastern Shore.

5.4.2.7.5 A description of anticipated challenges in meeting production goals and how the Offeror is prepared to address the challenges, including previous challenges encountered.

5.4.2.8 **Experience and Qualifications of Proposed Staff (Submit under TAB G).** The Offeror shall identify the qualifications and types of staff proposed to be utilized under the Contract. At a minimum, the offeror shall provide this information for the following positions of in-house staff and subcontractors: program manager, production manager, administrative assistant / scheduler(s), energy auditor(s), crew lead(s), QCI inspector(s).

The Offeror shall describe in detail how the proposed staff's experience and qualifications relate to their specific responsibilities, including any staff of proposed subcontractor(s), as detailed in the Work Plan. The Offeror shall include individual resumes for the Key Personnel, including Key Personnel for any proposed subcontractor(s), who are to be assigned to the project if the Offeror is awarded the Contract. Each resume should include the amount of experience the individual has had relative to the Scope of Work set forth in this solicitation.

The Offeror shall provide an Organizational Chart outlining personnel and their related duties. The Offeror shall include job titles and the percentage of time each individual will spend on his/her assigned tasks. Offerors using job titles other than those commonly used by industry standards must provide a crosswalk reference document.

Offerors should provide detailed information about staff that is expected to work on this contract, and demonstrate that roles necessary to operate in the program are filled adequately by those staff.

5.4.2.9 **Offeror Qualifications and Capabilities (Submit under TAB H).** The Offeror shall include information on past experience with similar projects and/or services. The Offeror shall describe how its organization can meet the requirements of this RFP and shall also include the following information:

- (1) The number of years the Offeror has provided the similar services;
- (2) The number of clients/customers and geographic locations that the Offeror currently serves;
- (3) The names and titles of headquarters or regional management personnel who may be involved with supervising the services to be performed under this Contract;
- (4) The Offeror's process for resolving billing errors; and
- (5) An organizational chart that identifies the complete structure of the Offeror, including any parent company, headquarters, regional offices, and subsidiaries of the Offeror;
- (6) Information regarding past participation in residential energy efficiency programs, specifically in Maryland, if applicable; and
- (7) Proof that the offeror is knowledgeable of Utility residential energy efficiency program offerings and is able to recommend appropriate programs to clients for opportunities that the low-income program cannot provide.

The Department encourages Offerors to demonstrate their long history in providing similar services, a broad delivery of services to a broad number of customers and regions, and participation in a large number of residential energy efficiency programs, specifically in Maryland.

5.4.2.10 **References (Submit under TAB I).** At least three (3) references are requested from customers, excluding DHCD staff, who are capable of documenting the Offeror's ability to provide the services specified in this RFP. References used to meet any Minimum Qualifications (see RFP Section 1) may be used to meet this request. Each reference shall be from a client for whom the Offeror has provided services within the past five (5) years and shall include the following information:

- (1) Name of client organization;
- (2) Name, title, telephone number, and e-mail address, if available, of point of contact for client organization; and
- (3) Value, type, duration, and description of services provided.

The Department reserves the right to request additional references or utilize references not provided by an Offeror.

5.4.2.11 List of Current or Prior State Contracts (Submit under TAB J).

5.4.2.11.1 Provide a list of all contracts with any entity of the State of Maryland for which the Offeror is currently directly performing services or for which services have been completed within the last five (5) years. The Offeror shall provide the following information for each identified contract:

- (1) The State contracting entity;
- (2) A brief description of the services/goods provided;
- (3) The dollar value of the contract;
- (4) The term of the contract;
- (5) The State employee contact person (name, title, telephone number, and, if possible, e-mail address);
- (6) Whether the contract was terminated before the end of the term specified in the original contract, including whether any available renewal option was not exercised.

Information obtained regarding the Offeror's level of performance on State contracts will be used by the Procurement Officer to determine the responsibility of the Offeror and considered as part of the experience and past performance evaluation criteria of the RFP. Offerors are encouraged to demonstrate their broad and long history in holding state contracts and fulfilling those contracts.

5.4.2.11.2 Provide a list of all current or prior contracts with any entity of the State of Maryland which required MBE / VSBE participation. The Offeror shall provide the following information for each identified contract:

- (1) Whether or not the Contractor complied with any MBE/VSBE requirements; and
- (2) What percentage of MBE/VSBE goals were achieved.

If none of the contracts required MBE / VSBE participation, the Offeror shall state so.

5.4.2.12 Financial Capability (Submit under TAB K). An Offeror must include in its Proposal a commonly-accepted method to prove its fiscal integrity. If available, the Offeror shall include Financial Statements, preferably a Profit and Loss (P&L) statement and a Balance Sheet, for the last two (2) years (independently audited preferred).

In addition, the Offeror may supplement its response to this Section by including one or more of the following with its response:

- (1) Dun & Bradstreet Rating;
- (2) Standard and Poor's Rating;
- (3) Lines of credit;
- (4) Evidence of a successful financial track record; and
- (5) Evidence of adequate working capital.

5.4.2.13 Certificate of Insurance (Submit under TAB L). The Offeror shall provide a copy of its current certificate of insurance showing the types and limits of insurance in effect as of the Proposal submission date. The current insurance types and limits do not have to be the same as described in Section 3.1. See Section 3.1 for the required insurance certificate submission for the recommended Offeror.

5.4.2.14 Subcontractors (Submit under TAB M). The Offeror shall provide a complete list of all subcontractors that will work on the Contract if the Offeror receives an award, including those utilized in meeting the MBE and/or VSBE subcontracting goal, if applicable. This list shall include the following information for each subcontractor:

- (1) Subcontractor business name and address

(2) MBE, VSBE or N/A

(3) A full description of the duties each subcontractor will perform and in which areas of Maryland work will be performed,

(4) Why/how each subcontractor was deemed the most qualified for this project.

5.4.2.15 Legal Action Summary (Submit under TAB N). This summary shall include a response to each of the following items:

- (1) A statement as to whether there are any outstanding legal actions or potential claims against the Offeror and a brief description of any action;
- (2) A brief description of any settled or closed legal actions or claims against the Offeror over the past five (5) years;
- (3) A description of any judgments against the Offeror within the past five (5) years, including the case name, court case docket number, and what the final ruling or determination was from the court;
- (4) In instances where litigation is ongoing and the Offeror has been directed not to disclose information by the court, the name of the judge and location of the court;
- (5) A statement that the Offeror is not excluded from working on federally funded projects through the federal System for Award Management (SAM); and
- (6) A statement that the Offeror is not debarred from working on state contracts.

5.4.2.16 Economic Benefit Factors (Submit under TAB O). The Offeror shall submit with its Proposal a narrative describing benefits that will accrue to the Maryland economy as a direct or indirect result of its performance of this contract. Proposals will be evaluated to assess the benefit to Maryland's economy specifically offered. Preference will be given to those Offerors whose response indicate the largest economic benefit to the state of Maryland, providing actual dollar amounts consistent with the Offeror's Total Proposal Price from Attachment B, the Financial Proposal Form (See COMAR 21.05.03.03A(3))

Proposals that identify specific benefits as being contractually enforceable commitments will be rated more favorably than Proposals that do not identify specific benefits as contractual commitments, all other factors being equal.

Offerors shall identify any performance guarantees that will be enforceable by the State if the full level of promised benefit is not achieved during the Contract term.

As applicable, for the full duration of the Contract, including any renewal period, or until the commitment is satisfied, the Contractor shall provide to the Procurement Officer or other designated agency personnel reports of the actual attainment of each benefit listed in response to this section. These benefit attainment reports shall be provided quarterly, unless elsewhere in these specifications a different reporting frequency is stated.

In responding to this section, the following do not generally constitute economic benefits to be derived from this Contract:

- (1) Generic statements that the State will benefit from the Offeror's superior performance under the Contract;
- (2) Descriptions of the number of Offeror employees located in Maryland other than those that will be performing work under this Contract; and
- (3) Tax revenues from Maryland-based employees or locations, other than those that will be performing, or used to perform, work under this Contract.

Discussion of Maryland-based employees or locations may be appropriate if the Offeror makes some projection or guarantee of increased or retained presence based upon being awarded this Contract.

Examples of economic benefits to be derived from a contract may include any of the following. For each factor identified below, identify the specific benefit and contractual commitments and provide a breakdown of expenditures in that category:

- (1) The Contract dollars to be recycled into Maryland's economy in support of the Contract, through the use of Maryland subcontractors, suppliers and joint venture partners. Do not include actual fees or rates paid to subcontractors or information from your Financial Proposal;
- (2) The number and types of jobs for Maryland residents resulting from the Contract. Indicate job classifications, number of employees in each classification and aggregate payroll to which the Offeror has committed, including contractual commitments at both prime and, if applicable, subcontract levels. If no new positions or subcontracts are anticipated as a result of this Contract, so state explicitly;
- (3) Tax revenues to be generated for Maryland and its political subdivisions as a result of the Contract. Indicate tax category (sales taxes, payroll taxes, inventory taxes and estimated personal income taxes for new employees). Provide a forecast of the total tax revenues resulting from the Contract;
- (4) Subcontract dollars committed to Maryland small businesses and MBEs; and
- (5) Other benefits to the Maryland economy which the Offeror promises will result from awarding the Contract to the Offeror, including contractual commitments. Describe the benefit, its value to the Maryland economy, and how it will result from, or because of the Contract award. Offerors may commit to benefits that are not directly attributable to the Contract, but for which the Contract award may serve as a catalyst or impetus.

5.4.3 Additional Required Technical Submissions (Submit under TAB P).

5.4.3.1 The following documents shall be completed, signed, and included in the Technical Proposal, under TAB O that follows the material submitted in response to Section 5.4.2.

- a. Completed Proposal Affidavit (**Attachment C**).
- b. Completed Maryland Living Wage Requirements Affidavit of Agreement (**Attachment F-1**).

5.4.3.2 ***If Required**, the following documents shall be completed, signed, and included in the Technical Proposal, under TAB P that follows the material submitted in response to Section 5.4.2. *See appropriate RFP Section to determine whether the particular document is required for this procurement:

- (1) A Signed Statement from the Offeror's Parent Organization Guaranteeing Performance of the Offeror. **See Section 4.16;**
- (2) Completed MDOT Certified MBE Utilization and Fair Solicitation Affidavit (**Attachment D-1A**). **See Section 4.26;**
- (3) Completed Federal Funds Attachment (**Attachment G**). **See Section 4.29;**
- (4) Completed Conflict of Interest Affidavit and Disclosure (**Attachment H**). **See Section 4.30;**
- (5) Completed Mercury Affidavit (**Attachment K**). **See Section 4.34;**
- (6) Completed Veteran-Owned Small Business Enterprise (VSBE) Utilization Affidavit and Prime/Subcontractor Participation Schedule. (**Attachment E-1**). **See Section 4.27;**
- (7) Completed Location of the Performance of Services Disclosure (**Attachment L**). **See Section 4.35.**

5.5 Volume II – Financial Proposal

Under separate sealed cover from the Technical Proposal and clearly identified in the format identified in Section 5.2 "Proposals," the Offeror shall submit an original unbound copy, five (5) copies, and an electronic version in Microsoft Excel of the Financial Proposal. The Financial Proposal shall contain all price information in the format specified in **Attachment B**. The Offeror shall complete the Financial Proposal Form for each Functional Area for which Offeror is submitting a proposal for the Contract Term, and an additional Financial Proposal Form for the Option Year term for each Functional Area for which Offeror is submitting a proposal.

If you wish for the Financial Proposal for the Option Year term to be the same as the Financial Proposal for the Contract

Term, please clearly indicate so in your Financial Proposal submission. The Financial Proposal Forms must be completed only as provided in the Financial Proposal Instructions and the Financial Proposal Form itself. The Financial Forms must not be modified. Modifying the forms may cause a response to be found not responsive.

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SECTION 6 – EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

6.1 Evaluation Committee

Evaluation of Proposals will be performed in accordance with COMAR 21.05.03 by a committee established for that purpose and based on the evaluation criteria set forth below. The Evaluation Committee will review Proposals, participate in Offeror oral presentations and discussions, and provide input to the Procurement Officer. The Department reserves the right to utilize the services of individuals outside of the established Evaluation Committee for advice and assistance, as deemed appropriate.

6.2 Technical Proposal Evaluation Criteria

For each Functional Area, the criteria below will be used to evaluate the Technical Proposal. Criteria are listed below in descending order of importance. Unless stated otherwise, any sub-criteria within each criterion have equal weight. Where a response is required, but the Offeror does not provide a complete response to the section or any subsection, the response may be given a score of INCOMPLETE. Failure to respond in the format described in this RFP may cause a reduction in the Offerors overall score.

- 6.2.1 **Offeror's Technical Response to RFP Requirements and Work Plan** (See RFP § 5.4.2.6) (TAB E). The State prefers an Offeror's response to work requirements in the RFP that illustrates a comprehensive understanding of work requirements and mastery of the subject matter, including an explanation of how the work will be done. Proposals which include limited responses to work requirements such as "concur" or "will comply" will receive a lower ranking than those Proposals that demonstrate an understanding of the work requirements and include plans to meet or exceed them.
- 6.2.2 **Documented Production Capacity** (See RFP § 5.4.2.7) (TAB F).
- 6.2.3 **Performance under current or former State contracts.** (See RFP §5.4.2.11) (TAB J).
- 6.2.4 **Offeror Qualifications and Capabilities.** (See RFP §§ 5.4.2.9 - 5.4.2.10) (TABS H, I).
- 6.2.5 **Experience and Qualifications of Proposed Staff and Subcontractors** (See RFP § 5.4.2.8 and RFP § 5.4.2.14) (TABS G, M).
- 6.2.7 **Economic Benefit to State of Maryland** (See RFP § 5.4.2.16) (TAB O).

6.3 Financial Proposal Evaluation Criteria

All Qualified Offerors will be ranked from the lowest (most advantageous) to the highest (least advantageous) price based on the Total Proposal Price per Functional Area within the stated guidelines set forth in this RFP and as submitted on **Attachment B** - Financial Proposal Form.

6.4 Reciprocal Preference

Although Maryland law does not generally authorize procuring units to favor resident Offerors in awarding procurement contracts, many other states do grant their resident businesses preferences over Maryland contractors. Therefore, COMAR 21.05.01.04 permits procuring units to apply a reciprocal preference in favor of a Maryland resident business under the following conditions:

- (1) The Maryland resident business is a responsible Offeror;

- (2) The most advantageous offer is from a responsible Offeror whose principal office or principal operations through which it would provide the services required under this RFP is in another state;
- (3) The other state gives a preference to its resident businesses through law, policy, or practice; and
- (4) The Maryland resident preference does not conflict with a federal law or grant affecting the procurement Contract.

The preference given shall be identical to the preference that the other state, through law, policy, or practice gives to its resident businesses.

6.5 Selection Procedures

- 6.5.1 **General.** For each Functional Area, Contracts will be awarded in accordance with the Competitive Sealed Proposals (CSP) method found at COMAR 21.05.03. The Competitive Sealed Proposals method allows for the conducting of discussions and the revision of Proposals during these discussions. Therefore, the State may conduct discussions with all Offerors that have submitted Proposals that are determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for contract award or potentially so. However, the State reserves the right to make an award without holding discussions.

In either case (i.e., with or without discussions), the State may determine an Offeror to be not responsible and/or an Offeror's Proposal to be not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award at any time after the initial closing date for receipt of Proposals and prior to Contract award. If the State finds an Offeror to be not responsible and/or an Offeror's Technical Proposal to be not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award, that Offeror's Financial Proposal will subsequently be returned if the Financial Proposal is unopened at the time of the determination.

6.5.2 Selection Process Sequence

- 6.5.2.1 A determination is made that the MDOT Certified MBE Utilization and Fair Solicitation Affidavit (**Attachment D-1A**) is included and properly completed, if there is an MBE goal. In addition, a determination is made that the VSBE Utilization Affidavit and Subcontractor Participation Schedule (**Attachment E-1**) is included and is properly completed, if there is a VSBE goal. Finally, a determination is made that all Minimum Qualifications, if any (See RFP Section 1), have been satisfied.

- 6.5.2.2 For each Functional Area, Technical Proposals are evaluated for technical merit and ranked. During this review, oral presentations and discussions may be held. The purpose of such discussions will be to assure a full understanding of the State's requirements and Offeror's ability to perform the services, as well as facilitate arrival at a Contract that is most advantageous to the State. Offerors will be contacted by the State as soon as any discussions are scheduled.

- 6.5.2.3 Offerors must confirm in writing any substantive oral clarifications of, or changes in, their Technical Proposals made in the course of discussions. Any such written clarifications or changes then become part of the Offeror's Technical Proposal. Technical Proposals are given a final review and ranked.

- 6.5.2.4 For each Functional Area, the Financial Proposal of each Qualified Offeror (a responsible Offeror determined to have submitted an acceptable Proposal) will be evaluated and ranked separately from the Technical evaluation. After a review of the Financial Proposals of Qualified Offerors, the Evaluation Committee or Procurement Officer may again conduct discussions to further evaluate the Offeror's entire Proposal.

- 6.5.2.5 When in the best interest of the State, the Procurement Officer may permit Qualified Offerors to revise their initial Proposals and submit, in writing, Best and Final Offers (BAFOs). The State may make an award without issuing a request for a BAFO.

- 6.5.3 **Award Determination.** For each Functional Area, upon completion of the Technical Proposal and Financial Proposal evaluations and rankings, each Offeror will receive an overall ranking. For Functional Area I, the Procurement Officer will recommend award of a minimum of five (5) up to twelve (12) Contracts to the

responsible Offerors that submitted the Proposals determined to be the most advantageous to the State. For Functional Area II, the Procurement Office will recommend award of a minimum of five (5) up to ten (10). The two lowest ranked Offerors in each Functional Area may be designated as On Call as Needed status. For Offerors submitting proposals for both Functional Area I and Functional Area II, this may result in an award in one Functional Area, both Functional Areas, or no Functional Areas at all. In making this most advantageous Proposal determination, technical and financial factors will receive equal weight.

6.6 Documents Required upon Notice of Recommendation for Contract Award

Upon receipt of a Notification of Recommendation for Contract Award, the following documents, if applicable, shall be completed, signed if applicable with original signatures, and submitted by the recommended awardee within five (5) Business Days, unless noted otherwise. Submit three (3) copies of each of the following documents:

- (1) Contract (**Attachment M**),
- (2) Contract Affidavit (**Attachment N**),
- (3) MBE **Attachments D-2 and D-3A/B**, within ten (10) Business Days, if applicable; *see **Section 4.26**,
- (4) MBE Waiver Justification within ten (10) Business Days (see **MBE Waiver Guidance and forms in Attachments D-1B and D-1C**), if a waiver has been requested (if applicable; *see **Section 4.26**),
- (5) VSBE **Attachment E-2**, if applicable *see **Section 4.27**,
- (6) Non-Disclosure Agreement (**Attachment I**), if applicable; *see **Section 4.31**,
- (7) HIPAA Business Associate Agreement (**Attachment J**), if applicable; *see **Section 4.32**,
- (8) DHS Hiring Agreement, **Attachment O**, if applicable *see **Section 4.36**, and
- (9) Copy of a current Certificate of Insurance with the prescribed limits set forth in Section 3.1 “Insurance Requirements,” listing the State as an additional insured, if applicable; *see **Section 3.1**

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RFP ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT A – Pre-Proposal Conference Response Form

It is requested that this form be completed and submitted as described in RFP Section 4.1 by those potential Offerors that plan on attending the Pre-Proposal Conference.

ATTACHMENT B – Financial Proposal Instructions and Form

The Financial Proposal Form must be completed and submitted in the Financial Proposal package.

ATTACHMENT C –Proposal Affidavit

This Attachment must be completed and submitted with the Technical Proposal.

ATTACHMENTS D – Minority Business Enterprise Forms

If required (see RFP Section 4.26), these Attachments include the MBE subcontracting goal statement and instructions, and MBE Attachments D-1 through D-5. Attachment D-1 must be properly completed and submitted with the Offeror's Technical Proposal or the Proposal will be deemed not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award and rejected. Within ten (10) Business Days of receiving notification of recommendation for Contract award, the Offeror must submit Attachments D-2 and D-3A/B.

ATTACHMENTS E – Veteran-Owned Small Business Enterprise Forms

If required (see RFP Section 4.27), these Attachments include the VSBE Attachments E-1 through E-4. Attachment E-1 must be completed and submitted with the Technical Proposal. Attachment M-2 is required to be submitted within ten (10) Business Days of receiving notification of recommendation for award.

ATTACHMENT F – Maryland Living Wage Requirements for Service Contracts and Affidavit of Agreement

Attachment F-1 Living Wage Affidavit of Agreement must be completed and submitted with the Technical Proposal.

ATTACHMENT G – Federal Funds Attachment

If required (see RFP Section 4.29), these Attachments must be completed and submitted with the Technical Proposal as instructed in the Attachments.

ATTACHMENT H – Conflict of Interest Affidavit and Disclosure

If required (see RFP Section 4.30), this Attachment must be completed and submitted with the Technical Proposal.

ATTACHMENT I – Non-Disclosure Agreement

If required (see RFP Section 4.31), this Attachment must be completed and submitted within five (5) Business Days of receiving notification of recommendation for award. However, to expedite processing, it is suggested that this document be completed and submitted with the Technical Proposal.

ATTACHMENT J – HIPAA Business Associate Agreement

If required (see RFP Section 4.32), this Attachment is to be completed and submitted within five (5) Business Days of receiving notification of recommendation for award. However, to expedite processing, it is suggested that this document be completed and submitted with the Technical Proposal.

ATTACHMENT K – Mercury Affidavit

If required (see RFP Section 4.34), this Attachment must be completed and submitted with the Technical Proposal.

ATTACHMENT L – Location of the Performance of Services Disclosure

If required (see RFP Section 4.35), this Attachment must be completed and submitted with the Technical Proposal.

ATTACHMENT M – Contract

This is the sample contract used by the Department. It is provided with the RFP for informational purposes and is not required to be submitted at Proposal submission time. Upon notification of recommendation for award, a completed contract will be sent to the recommended awardee(s) for signature. The final contract may vary from this sample contract. The recommended awardee must return to the Procurement Officer three (3) executed copies of the Contract within five (5) Business Days after receipt. Upon Contract award and receipt of all necessary State approvals, a fully-

executed copy will be sent to the Contractor.

ATTACHMENT N – Contract Affidavit

This Attachment must be completed and submitted by the recommended awardee(s) to the Procurement Officer within five (5) Business Days of receiving notification of recommendation for award.

ATTACHMENT O – Department of Human Services (DHS) Hiring Agreement

If required (see RFP Section 4.36), this Attachment is to be completed and submitted within five (5) Business Days of receiving notification of recommendation for award.

ATTACHMENT P—FINANCIAL PROPOSAL FORM FA1-B

This attachment must be completed if the Offeror is submitting a Financial Proposal for Functional Area I, for which any line item EXCEEDS a Factor of 1 for the Contract Term.

ATTACHMENT A – PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE RESPONSE FORM

**Solicitation Number S00R8400010
STATE WEATHERIZATION CONTRACTOR SERVICES**

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held at the date, time, and location indicated in the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet (near the beginning of the solicitation, after the Title Page and Notice to Vendors).

Please return this form at least five (5) Business Days prior to the Pre-Proposal Conference date, advising whether or not you plan to attend. The completed form should be returned via e-mail to the Procurement Officer. The Procurement Officer's contact information is provided in the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet.

Please indicate:

_____ Yes, the following representatives will be in attendance:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Please note, this pre-proposal conference is being held at the Treasury Building, 80 Calvert Street, Annapolis, MD 21411.

Guests will need to either show their state ID or driver's license when they enter the building.

Closest parking garage is Gott's Court Garage, 25 Northwest Street, Annapolis, MD 21401.

Alternate Entrance: 25 Calvert Street, Annapolis, MD 21401

_____ No, we will not be in attendance.

Please specify whether any reasonable accommodations are requested (see RFP § 4.1 "Pre-Proposal Conference"):

Signature

Title

Name of Firm (please print)

ATTACHMENT B – FINANCIAL PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS & FORM

See Instructions and Financial Proposal Forms attached as separate excel spreadsheets for each functional area. Also, see the supplemental instructions below, applicable to Functional Area 1 only.

APPLICABLE TO FINANCIAL PROPOSALS FOR CONTRACT TERM, FUNCTIONAL AREA I ONLY:

A. Financial Proposals for which no line item exceeds a Price Factor of 1:

The Public Service Commission has approved the price list with a Price Cap per Unit as listed in Financial Proposal Form –Functional Area I. Thus, Contract Term Financial Proposals for Functional Area I that submit all Price Factors less than or equal to 1 will not require additional approval of the Public Service Commission before contract commencement.

B. Financial Proposals for which any line item EXCEEDS a Factor of 1:

Offerors may propose Price Factors exceeding a factor of 1 in the Contract Term Financial Proposal Form—Functional Area I. However, any Financial Proposals that include a Price Factor exceeding 1 will necessitate Public Service Commission approval of the proposed pricing, which may take several months.

Contractors proposing Price Factors exceeding a factor of 1 will be ranked under Section 6.3 based upon the Price Factor submitted in the Financial Proposal Form—Functional Area I. If selected for award, Contractors proposing Price Factors exceeding a factor of 1 will have the following options:

1. Execute contract, subject to Public Service Commission approval of pricing, with no work to commence prior to Public Service Commission approval of pricing; or
2. Execute contract, subject to Public Service Commission approval of pricing. Until Public Service Commission approval of pricing is awarded (which time frame cannot be guaranteed) Contractor will provide services in accordance with its price proposal EXCEPT that for Price Factors exceeding 1, Contractors will be compensated at a Price Factor of 1 until Public Service Commission approval is obtained. If Public Service Commission approval is obtained for the pricing as proposed in the Financial Proposal Form –Functional Area I, pricing under the Contract will be paid at that price. Upon approval, retroactive payments will be made for payments made under the Contract before approval of pricing, if permitted by the Public Service Commission.

In the event that the Public Service Commission does not approve the proposed pricing, Contractors will have the following options:

1. Terminate the Contract.
2. Continue work under the Contract pursuant to the financial proposal, EXCEPT that for Price Factors exceeding 1 in the Contract Term Financial Proposal -Functional Area I, Contractors will be compensated only at a Price Factor of 1.

For any awarded Contract where a Price Factor exceeds 1, the above provisions will be incorporated into the Contract. The termination date of the Contract will remain unchanged.

Contractors submitting Financial Proposals for Functional Area I, for which any line item EXCEEDS a Factor of 1, are required to submit a completed ATTACHMENT P—FINANCIAL PROPOSAL FORM FA1-B with the financial proposal.

ATTACHMENT C – PROPOSAL AFFIDAVIT

A. AUTHORITY

I hereby affirm that I, _____ (name of affiant) am the _____ (title) and duly authorized representative of _____ (name of business entity) and that I possess the legal authority to make this affidavit on behalf of the business for which I am acting.

B. CERTIFICATION REGARDING COMMERCIAL NONDISCRIMINATION

The undersigned Bidder/Offeror hereby certifies and agrees that the following information is correct: In preparing its Bid/proposal on this project, the Bidder/Offeror has considered all Bid/proposals submitted from qualified, potential subcontractors and suppliers, and has not engaged in “discrimination” as defined in § 19-103 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. “Discrimination” means any disadvantage, difference, distinction, or preference in the solicitation, selection, hiring, or commercial treatment of a vendor, subcontractor, or commercial customer on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, or national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, sexual identity, genetic information or an individual’s refusal to submit to a genetic test or make available the results of a genetic test, disability, or any otherwise unlawful use of characteristics regarding the vendor’s, supplier’s, or commercial customer’s employees or owners. “Discrimination” also includes retaliating against any person or other entity for reporting any incident of “discrimination”. Without limiting any other provision of the solicitation on this project, it is understood that, if the certification is false, such false certification constitutes grounds for the State to reject the Bid/proposal submitted by the Bidder/Offeror on this project, and terminate any contract awarded based on the Bid/proposal. As part of its Bid/proposal, the Bidder/Offeror herewith submits a list of all instances within the past four (4) years where there has been a final adjudicated determination in a legal or administrative proceeding in the State of Maryland that the Bidder/Offeror discriminated against subcontractors, vendors, suppliers, or commercial customers, and a description of the status or resolution of that determination, including any remedial action taken. Bidder/Offeror agrees to comply in all respects with the State’s Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy as described under Title 19 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

B-1. CERTIFICATION REGARDING MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES.

The undersigned Bidder/Offeror hereby certifies and agrees that it has fully complied with the State Minority Business Enterprise Law, State Finance and Procurement Article, § 14-308(a)(2), Annotated Code of Maryland, which provides that, except as otherwise provided by law, a contractor may not identify a certified minority business enterprise in a Bid/proposal and:

- (1) Fail to request, receive, or otherwise obtain authorization from the certified minority business enterprise to identify the certified minority bid/proposal;
- (2) Fail to notify the certified minority business enterprise before execution of the contract of its inclusion in the Bid/proposal;
- (3) Fail to use the certified minority business enterprise in the performance of the contract; or
- (4) Pay the certified minority business enterprise solely for the use of its name in the Bid/proposal.

Without limiting any other provision of the solicitation on this project, it is understood that if the certification is false, such false certification constitutes grounds for the State to reject the Bid/proposal submitted by the Bidder/Offeror on this project, and terminate any contract awarded based on the Bid/proposal.

B-2. CERTIFICATION REGARDING VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISES.

The undersigned Bidder/Offeror hereby certifies and agrees that it has fully complied with the State veteran-owned small business enterprise law, State Finance and Procurement Article, § 14-605, Annotated Code of Maryland, which provides that a person may not:

- (1) Knowingly and with intent to defraud, fraudulently obtain, attempt to obtain, or aid another person in fraudulently obtaining or attempting to obtain public money, procurement contracts, or funds expended under a procurement contract to which the person is not entitled under this title;
- (2) Knowingly and with intent to defraud, fraudulently represent participation of a veteran-owned small business enterprise in order to obtain or retain a Bid/proposal preference or a procurement contract;
- (3) Willfully and knowingly make or subscribe to any statement, declaration, or other document that is fraudulent or false as to any material matter, whether or not that falsity or fraud is committed with the knowledge or consent of the person authorized or required to present the declaration, statement, or document;
- (4) Willfully and knowingly aid, assist in, procure, counsel, or advise the preparation or presentation of a declaration, statement, or other document that is fraudulent or false as to any material matter, regardless of whether that falsity or fraud is committed with the knowledge or consent of the person authorized or required to present the declaration, statement, or document;

- (5) Willfully and knowingly fail to file any declaration or notice with the unit that is required by COMAR 21.11.13; or
- (6) Establish, knowingly aid in the establishment of, or exercise control over a business found to have violated a provision of § B-2(1) -(5) of this regulation.

C. AFFIRMATION REGARDING BRIBERY CONVICTIONS

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business (as is defined in Section 16-101(b) of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland), or any of its officers, directors, partners, controlling stockholders, or any of its employees directly involved in the business's contracting activities including obtaining or performing contracts with public bodies has been convicted of, or has had probation before judgment imposed pursuant to Criminal Procedure Article, § 6-220, Annotated Code of Maryland, or has pleaded nolo contendere to a charge of, bribery, attempted bribery, or conspiracy to bribe in violation of Maryland law, or of the law of any other state or federal law, except as follows (indicate the reasons why the affirmation cannot be given and list any conviction, plea, or imposition of probation before judgment with the date, court, official or administrative body, the sentence or disposition, the name(s) of person(s) involved, and their current positions and responsibilities with the business):

D. AFFIRMATION REGARDING OTHER CONVICTIONS

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business, or any of its officers, directors, partners, controlling stockholders, or any of its employees directly involved in the business's contracting activities including obtaining or performing contracts with public bodies, has:

- (1) Been convicted under state or federal statute of:
 - (a) A criminal offense incident to obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public or private contract; or
 - (b) Fraud, embezzlement, theft, forgery, falsification or destruction of records or receiving stolen property;
- (2) Been convicted of any criminal violation of a state or federal antitrust statute;
- (3) Been convicted under the provisions of Title 18 of the United States Code for violation of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act, 18 U.S.C. § 1961 et seq., or the Mail Fraud Act, 18 U.S.C. § 1341 et seq., for acts in connection with the submission of Bids/Proposals for a public or private contract;
- (4) Been convicted of a violation of the State Minority Business Enterprise Law, § 14-308 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland;
- (5) Been convicted of a violation of § 11-205.1 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland;
- (6) Been convicted of conspiracy to commit any act or omission that would constitute grounds for conviction or liability under any law or statute described in subsections (1)— (5) above;
- (7) Been found civilly liable under a state or federal antitrust statute for acts or omissions in connection with the submission of Bids/Proposals for a public or private contract;
- (8) Been found in a final adjudicated decision to have violated the Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy under Title 19 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland with regard to a public or private contract;
- (9) Been convicted of a violation of one or more of the following provisions of the Internal Revenue Code:
 - (a) §7201, Attempt to Evade or Defeat Tax;
 - (b) §7203, Willful Failure to File Return, Supply Information, or Pay Tax,
 - (c) §7205, Fraudulent Withholding Exemption Certificate or Failure to Supply Information;
 - (d) §7206, Fraud and False Statements, or
 - (e) §7207 Fraudulent Returns, Statements, or Other Documents;
- (10) Been convicted of a violation of 18 U.S.C. §286 Conspiracy to Defraud the Government with Respect to Claims, 18 U.S.C. §287, False, Fictitious, or Fraudulent Claims, or 18 U.S.C. §371, Conspiracy to Defraud the United States;
- (11) Been convicted of a violation of the Tax-General Article, Title 13, Subtitle 7 or Subtitle 10, Annotated Code of Maryland;
- (12) Been found to have willfully or knowingly violated State Prevailing Wage Laws as provided in the State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 17, Subtitle 2, Annotated Code of Maryland, if:
 - (a) A court:
 - (i) Made the finding; and
 - (ii) Decision became final; or
 - (b) The finding was:

- (i) Made in a contested case under the Maryland Administrative Procedure act; and
 - (ii) Not overturned on judicial review;
 - (13) Been found to have willfully or knowingly violated State Living Wage Laws as provided in the State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 18, Annotated Code of Maryland, if:
 - (a) A court:
 - (i) Made the finding; and
 - (ii) Decision became final; or
 - (b) The finding was:
 - (i) Made in a contested case under the Maryland Administrative Procedure act; and
 - (ii) Not overturned on judicial review;
 - (14) Been found to have willfully or knowingly violated the Labor and Employment Article, Title 3, Subtitles 3, 4, or 5, or Title 5, Annotated Code of Maryland, if:
 - (a) A court:
 - (i) Made the finding; and
 - (ii) Decision became final; or
 - (b) The finding was:
 - (i) Made in a contested case under the Maryland Administrative Procedure act; and
 - (ii) Not overturned on judicial review; or
 - (15) Admitted in writing or under oath, during the course of an official investigation or other proceedings, acts or omissions that would constitute grounds for conviction or liability under any law or statute described in §§ B and C and subsections D(1)—(14) above, except as follows (indicate reasons why the affirmations cannot be given, and list any conviction, plea, or imposition of probation before judgment with the date, court, official or administrative body, the sentence or disposition, the name(s) of the person(s) involved and their current positions and responsibilities with the business, and the status of any debarment):
-

E. AFFIRMATION REGARDING DEBARMENT

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business, or any of its officers, directors, partners, controlling stockholders, or any of its employees directly involved in the business's contracting activities, including obtaining or performing contracts with public bodies, has ever been suspended or debarred (including being issued a limited denial of participation) by any public entity, except as follows (list each debarment or suspension providing the dates of the suspension or debarment, the name of the public entity and the status of the proceedings, the name(s) of the person(s) involved and their current positions and responsibilities with the business, the grounds of the debarment or suspension, and the details of each person's involvement in any activity that formed the grounds of the debarment or suspension).

F. AFFIRMATION REGARDING DEBARMENT OF RELATED ENTITIES

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

- (1) The business was not established and does not operate in a manner designed to evade the application of or defeat the purpose of debarment pursuant to Sections 16-101, et seq., of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland; and
 - (2) The business is not a successor, assignee, subsidiary, or affiliate of a suspended or debarred business, except as follows (you must indicate the reasons why the affirmations cannot be given without qualification):
-

G. SUBCONTRACT AFFIRMATION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business, has knowingly entered into a contract with a public body under which a person debarred or suspended under Title 16 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland will provide, directly or indirectly, supplies, services, architectural services, construction related services, leases of real property, or construction.

H. AFFIRMATION REGARDING COLLUSION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business has:

- (1) Agreed, conspired, connived, or colluded to produce a deceptive show of competition in the compilation of the

accompanying Bid/proposal that is being submitted; or

(2) In any manner, directly or indirectly, entered into any agreement of any kind to fix the Bid/proposal price of the Bidder/Offeror or of any competitor, or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with the contract for which the accompanying Bid/proposal is submitted.

I. CERTIFICATION OF TAX PAYMENT

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Except as validly contested, the business has paid, or has arranged for payment of, all taxes due the State of Maryland and has filed all required returns and reports with the Comptroller of the Treasury, State Department of Assessments and Taxation, and Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, as applicable, and will have paid all withholding taxes due the State of Maryland prior to final settlement.

J. CONTINGENT FEES

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

The business has not employed or retained any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee, bona fide agent, bona fide salesperson, or commercial selling agency working for the business, to solicit or secure the Contract, and that the business has not paid or agreed to pay any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee, bona fide agent, bona fide salesperson, or commercial selling agency, any fee or any other consideration contingent on the making of the Contract.

K. CERTIFICATION REGARDING INVESTMENTS IN IRAN

(1) The undersigned certifies that, in accordance with State Finance and Procurement Article, §17-705, Annotated Code of Maryland:

(a) It is not identified on the list created by the Board of Public Works as a person engaging in investment activities in Iran as described in State Finance and Procurement Article, §17-702, Annotated Code of Maryland; and

(b) It is not engaging in investment activities in Iran as described in State Finance and Procurement Article, §17-702, Annotated Code of Maryland.

(2) The undersigned is unable to make the above certification regarding its investment activities in Iran due to the following activities:

L. CONFLICT MINERALS ORIGINATED IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (FOR SUPPLIES AND SERVICES CONTRACTS)

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

The business has complied with the provisions of State Finance and Procurement Article, §14-413, Annotated Code of Maryland governing proper disclosure of certain information regarding conflict minerals originating in the Democratic Republic of Congo or its neighboring countries as required by federal law.

M. PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATORY BOYCOTTS OF ISRAEL

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

In preparing its bid/proposal on this project, the Bidder/Offeror has considered all bid/proposals submitted from qualified, potential subcontractors and suppliers, and has not, in the solicitation, selection, or commercial treatment of any subcontractor, vendor, or supplier, refused to transact or terminated business activities, or taken other actions intended to limit commercial relations, with a person or entity on the basis of Israeli national origin, or residence or incorporation in Israel and its territories. The Bidder/Offeror also has not retaliated against any person or other entity for reporting such refusal, termination, or commercially limiting actions. Without limiting any other provision of the solicitation for bid/proposals for this project, it is understood and agreed that, if this certification is false, such false certification will constitute grounds for the State to reject the bid/proposal submitted by the Bidder/Offeror on this project, and terminate any contract awarded based on the bid/proposal.

N. I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Any claims of environmental attributes made relating to a product or service included in the bid or bid/proposal are consistent with the Federal Trade Commission's Guides for the Use of Environmental Marketing Claims as provided in 16 C.F.R. §260, that apply to claims about the environmental attributes of a product, package or service in connection with the marketing, offering for sale, or sale of such item or service.

O. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT this Affidavit is to be furnished to the Procurement Officer and may be distributed to units of: (1) the State of Maryland; (2) counties or other subdivisions of the State of Maryland; (3) other states; and (4) the federal government. I further acknowledge that this Affidavit is subject to applicable laws of the United States and the State of Maryland, both criminal and civil, and that nothing in this Affidavit or any contract resulting from the submission of this Bid/proposal shall be construed to supersede, amend, modify or waive, on behalf of the State of Maryland, or any unit of the State of Maryland having jurisdiction, the exercise of any statutory right or remedy

conferred by the Constitution and the laws of Maryland with respect to any misrepresentation made or any violation of the obligations, terms and covenants undertaken by the above business with respect to (1) this Affidavit, (2) the contract, and (3) other Affidavits comprising part of the contract.
I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

By:

Signature of Authorized Representative and Affiant

Printed Name:

Printed Name of Authorized Representative and Affiant

Title:

Title

Date:

Date

**MBE ATTACHMENT D-1A
MBE UTILIZATION AND FAIR SOLICITATION AFFIDAVIT
& MBE PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE**

PART 1 - INSTRUCTIONS

PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING THIS DOCUMENT

This form includes Instructions and the MBE Utilization and Fair Solicitation Affidavit & MBE Participation Schedule which must be submitted with the Proposal. If the Offeror fails to accurately complete and submit this Affidavit and Schedule with the Proposal as required, the Procurement Officer shall determine that the Proposal is not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award.

1. Contractor shall structure its procedures for the performance of the work required in this Contract to attempt to achieve the minority business enterprise (MBE) subcontractor participation goal stated in the Request for Proposals. Contractor agrees to exercise good faith efforts to carry out the requirements set forth in these Instructions, as authorized by the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 21.11.03.
1. MBE Goals and Subgoals: Please review the solicitation for information regarding the Contract's MBE overall participation goals and subgoals. After satisfying the requirements for any established subgoals, the Contractor is encouraged to use a diverse group of subcontractors and suppliers from the various MBE classifications to meet the remainder of the overall MBE participation goal.
2. MBE means a minority business enterprise that is certified by the Maryland Department of Transportation ("MDOT"). Only MBEs certified by MDOT may be counted for purposes of achieving the MBE participation goals. In order to be counted for purposes of achieving the MBE participation goals, the MBE firm, including a MBE prime, must be MDOT-certified for the services, materials or supplies that it is committed to perform on the MBE Participation Schedule. A firm whose MBE certification application is pending may not be counted.
3. Please refer to the MDOT MBE Directory at <https://mbe.mdot.maryland.gov/directory/> to determine if a firm is certified with the appropriate North American Industry Classification System ("NAICS") Code **and** the product/services description (specific product that a firm is certified to provide or specific areas of work that a firm is certified to perform). For more general information about NAICS codes, please visit <https://www.census.gov/eos/www/naics/>. Only those specific products and/or services for which a firm is certified in the MDOT Directory can be used for purposes of achieving the MBE participation goals. **CAUTION:** If the firm's NAICS Code is in graduated status, such services/products may not be counted for purposes of achieving the MBE participation goals. A NAICS Code is in the graduated status if the term "Graduated" follows the Code in the MDOT MBE Directory.
4. **Guidelines Regarding MBE Prime Self-Performance.** Please note that when a certified MBE firm participates as a prime contractor on a Contract, a procurement agency may count the distinct, clearly defined portion of the work of the Contract that the certified MBE firm performs with its own workforce toward fulfilling up to, but no more than, fifty-percent (50%) of the overall MBE participation goal, including up to one hundred percent (100%) of not more than one of the MBE participation subgoals, if any, established for the Contract.
 - ✓ In order to receive credit for self-performance, an MBE prime must be certified in the appropriate NAICS code to do the work and must list its firm in the MBE Participation Schedule, including the certification category under which the MBE prime is self-performing and include information regarding the work it will self-perform.
 - ✓ For the remaining portion of the overall goal and the remaining subgoals, the MBE prime must also identify on the MBE Participation Schedule the other certified MBE subcontractors used to meet those goals or request a waiver.

- ✓ These guidelines apply to the work performed by the MBE Prime that can be counted for purposes of meeting the MBE participation goals. These requirements do not affect the MBE Prime's ability to self-perform a greater portion of the work in excess of what is counted for purposes of meeting the MBE participation goals.
 - ✓ Please note that the requirements to meet the MBE participation overall goal and subgoals are distinct and separate. If the contract has subgoals, regardless of MBE Prime's ability to self-perform up to 50% of the overall goal (including up to 100% of any subgoal), the MBE Prime must either commit to use other MBEs for each of any remaining subgoals or request a waiver. As set forth in Attachment 1-B Waiver Guidance, the MBE Prime's ability to self-perform certain portions of the work of the Contract will not be deemed a substitute for the good faith efforts to meet any remaining subgoal or the balance of the overall goal.
 - ✓ In certain instances where the percentages allocated to MBE participation subgoals add up to more than 50% of the overall goal, the portion of self-performed work that an MBE Prime may count toward the overall goal may be limited to less than 50%. Please refer to the Governor's Office of Small Minority & Women Business Affairs' website for the MBE Prime Regulations Q&A for illustrative examples.
http://www.goMDsmallbiz.maryland.gov/Documents/MBE_Toolkit/MBEPrimeRegulation_QA.pdf
5. Subject to items 1 through 5 above, when a certified MBE performs as a participant in a joint venture, a procurement agency may count a portion of the total dollar value of the Contract equal to the distinct, clearly-defined portion of the work of the Contract that the certified MBE performs with its own forces toward fulfilling the Contract goal, and not more than one of the Contract subgoals, if any.
 6. The work performed by a certified MBE firm, including an MBE prime, can only be counted towards the MBE participation goal(s) if the MBE firm is performing a commercially useful function on the Contract. Please refer to COMAR 21.11.03.12-1 for more information regarding these requirements.
 7. **Materials and Supplies: New Guidelines Regarding MBE Participation.**
 - ✓ **Regular Dealers:** Up to 60% of the costs of materials and supplies provided by a certified MBE may be counted towards the MBE participation goal(s) if such MBE is a Regular Dealer of such materials and supplies. Regular Dealer is defined as a firm that owns, operates, or maintains a store, a warehouse, or any other establishment in which the materials, supplies, articles, or equipment are of the general character described by the specifications required under the contract and are bought, kept in stock, or regularly sold or leased to the public in the usual course of business; and does not include a packager, a broker, a manufacturer's representative, or any other person that arranges or expedites transactions. Generally, a Regular Dealer will be identified as a wholesaler or supplier in the MDOT Directory.
 - ✓ **Manufacturers:** A certified MBE firm's participation may be counted in full if the MBE is certified in the appropriate NAICS code(s) to provide products and services as a manufacturer.
 - ✓ **Brokers:** With respect to materials or supplies purchased from a certified MBE that is neither a manufacturer nor a regular dealer, a unit may apply the entire amount of fees or commissions charged for assistance in the procurement of the materials and supplies, fees, or transportation charges for the delivery of materials and supplies required on a procurement toward the MBE contract goals, provided a unit determines the fees to be reasonable and not excessive as compared with fees customarily allowed for similar services. A unit may not apply any portion of the costs of the materials and supplies toward MBE goals.
 - ✓ **Furnish and Install:** The participation of a certified MBE supplier, wholesaler, and/or regular dealer certified in the proper NAICS Code(s) to furnish and install materials necessary for successful contract completion may be counted in full.
 8. **Dually certified firms.** An MBE that is certified in more than one subgroup category may only be counted toward goal fulfillment of ONE of those categories with regard to a particular contract.

Example: A woman-owned Hispanic American (dually certified) firm may be used to fulfill the women-owned

OR Hispanic American subgoal, but not both on the same contract.

9. CAUTION: The percentage of MBE participation, computed using the percentage amounts determined for all of the MBE firms listed in PART 3, MUST meet or exceed the MBE participation goal and subgoals (if applicable) as set forth in PART 2- for this solicitation. If a bidder/offeror is unable to meet the MBE participation goal or any subgoals (if applicable), then the bidder/offeror must request a waiver in PART 2 or the bid will be deemed not responsive, or the proposal not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award. You may wish to use the attached Goal/Subgoal Worksheet to assist in calculating the percentages and confirming that your commitment meets or exceeds the applicable MBE participation goal and subgoals (if any).
10. If you have any questions as to whether a firm is certified to perform the specific services or provide specific products, please contact MDOT's Office of Minority Business Enterprise at 1-800-544-6056 or via email to mbe@mdot.state.md.us sufficiently prior to the submission due date.

Subgoals (if applicable)

Total African American MBE Participation:	_____ %
Total Asian American MBE Participation:	_____ %
Total Hispanic American MBE Participation:	_____ %
Total Women-Owned MBE Participation:	_____ %

Overall Goal

Total MBE Participation (include all categories):	_____ %
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PART 2 - MBE UTILIZATION AND FAIR SOLICITATION AFFIDAVIT & MBE PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE

An Offeror must properly complete and submit a separate Attachment D-1A, MBE Utilization and Fair Solicitation Affidavit & MBE Participation Schedule, for EACH Functional Area for which it is submitting a proposal. If an Offeror is submitting a proposal for each of Functional Areas I and II, the Offeror must submit three separate Attachment D-1As, one for each of the three Functional Area.

This MBE Utilization and Fair Solicitation Affidavit and MBE Participation Schedule must be completed in its entirety and included with the Proposal. If the Offeror fails to accurately complete and submit this Affidavit and Schedule with the Proposal as required, the Procurement Officer shall deem the bid non-responsive or shall determine that the Proposal is not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award.

In connection with the Proposal submitted in response to Solicitation No.S00R8400010, I affirm the following:

1. MBE Participation (PLEASE CHECK ONLY ONE)

☐ I acknowledge and intend to meet IN FULL both the overall certified Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) participation goal of % percent and all of the following subgoals:

Therefore, I am not seeking a waiver pursuant to COMAR 21.11.03.11. I acknowledge that by checking the above box and agreeing to meet the stated goal and subgoal(s), if any, I **must** complete PART 3 - MBE Participation Schedule in order to be considered for award.

OR

☐ I conclude that I am unable to achieve the MBE participation goal and/or subgoals. I hereby request a waiver, in whole or in part, of the overall goal and/or subgoals I acknowledge that by checking this box and requesting a partial waiver of the stated goal and/or one or more of the stated subgoal(s) if any, I **must** complete PART 3, the MBE Participation Schedule for the portion of the goal and/or subgoal(s) if any, for which I am not seeking a waiver, in order to be considered for award.

Additional MBE Documentation

I understand that if I am notified that I am the apparent awardee or as requested by the Procurement Officer, I must submit the following documentation within 10 working days of receiving notice of the potential award or from the date of conditional award (per COMAR 21.11.03.10), whichever is earlier:

- (a) Good Faith Efforts Documentation to Support Waiver Request (Attachment D-1C)
- (b) Outreach Efforts Compliance Statement (Attachment D-2);
- (c) MBE Subcontractor/MBE Prime Project Participation Statement (Attachments D-3A and 3B);
- (d) Any other documentation, including additional waiver documentation if applicable, required by the Procurement Officer to ascertain bidder or offeror responsibility in connection with the certified MBE participation goal and subgoals, if any.

I understand that if I fail to return each completed document within the required time, the Procurement Officer may determine that I am not responsible and therefore not eligible for contract award. If the contract has already been awarded, the award is voidable.

Information Provided to MBE firms

In the solicitation of subcontract quotations or offers, MBE firms were provided not less than the same information and amount of time to respond as were non-MBE firms.

PART 3 - MBE PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE

Set forth below are the (i) certified MBEs I intend to use, (ii) the percentage of the total Contract value allocated to each MBE for this project and, (iii) the items of work each MBE will provide under the Contract. I have confirmed with the MDOT database that the MBE firms identified below (including any self-performing MBE prime firms) are performing work activities for which they are MDOT-certified.

Prime Contractor	Project Description	PROJECT/CONTRACT NUMBER

LIST INFORMATION FOR EACH CERTIFIED MBE FIRM YOU AGREE TO USE TO ACHIEVE THE MBE PARTICIPATION GOAL AND SUBGOALS, IF ANY. **MBE PRIMES:** PLEASE COMPLETE BOTH SECTIONS A AND B BELOW.

SECTION A: For MBE Prime Contractors ONLY (including MBE Primes in a Joint Venture)

<p>MBE Prime Firm Name: _____</p> <p>MBE Certification Number: _____</p> <p>(If dually certified, check only one box.)</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> African American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic American- Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Women-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Other MBE Classification </p>	<p>Percentage of total Contract Value to be performed with own forces and counted towards the MBE overall participation goal (up to 50% of the overall goal): _____% Please refer to Item #8 in PART 1- Instructions of this document for new MBE participation guidelines regarding materials and supplies.</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Supplier <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturer <input type="checkbox"/> Broker <input type="checkbox"/> Furnish and Install <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Other </p> <p>Percentage of total Contract Value to be performed with own forces and counted towards the subgoal, if any, for my MBE classification (up to 100% of not more than one subgoal): _____%</p> <p>Description of the Work to be performed with MBE prime's own forces:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
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SECTION B: For all Contractors (including MBE Primes and MBE Primes in a Joint Venture)

<p>MBE Firm Name: _____</p> <p>MBE Certification Number: _____</p> <p>(If dually certified, check only one box.)</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> African American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic American- Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Women-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Other MBE Classification </p>	<p>Percentage of total Contract Value to be performed with own forces and counted towards the MBE overall participation goal (up to 50% of the overall goal): _____% Please refer to Item #8 in PART 1- Instructions of this document for new MBE participation guidelines regarding materials and supplies.</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Supplier <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturer <input type="checkbox"/> Broker <input type="checkbox"/> Furnish and Install <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Other </p> <p>Description of the Work to be Performed:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>MBE Firm Name: _____</p> <p>MBE Certification Number: _____</p> <p>(If dually certified, check only one box.)</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> African American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic American- Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American-Owned </p>	<p>Percentage of total Contract Value to be performed with own forces and counted towards the MBE overall participation goal (up to 50% of the overall goal): _____% Please refer to Item #8 in PART 1- Instructions of this document for new MBE participation guidelines regarding materials and supplies.</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Supplier <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturer <input type="checkbox"/> Broker <input type="checkbox"/> Furnish and Install <input type="checkbox"/> Services </p>

<input type="checkbox"/> Women-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Other MBE Classification	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Description of the Work to be Performed: <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
MBE Firm Name: _____ MBE Certification Number: _____ (If dually certified, check only one box.) <input type="checkbox"/> African American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic American- Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Women-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Other MBE Classification	Percentage of total Contract Value to be performed with own forces and counted towards the MBE overall participation goal (up to 50% of the overall goal): _____% Please refer to Item #8 in PART 1- Instructions of this document for new MBE participation guidelines regarding materials and supplies. <input type="checkbox"/> Supplier <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturer <input type="checkbox"/> Broker <input type="checkbox"/> Furnish and Install <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Other Description of the Work to be Performed: <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
MBE Firm Name: _____ MBE Certification Number: _____ (If dually certified, check only one box.) <input type="checkbox"/> African American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic American- Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Women-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Other MBE Classification	Percentage of total Contract Value to be performed with own forces and counted towards the MBE overall participation goal (up to 50% of the overall goal): _____% Please refer to Item #8 in PART 1- Instructions of this document for new MBE participation guidelines regarding materials and supplies. <input type="checkbox"/> Supplier <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturer <input type="checkbox"/> Broker <input type="checkbox"/> Furnish and Install <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Other Description of the Work to be Performed: <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

Continue on separate page if needed

I solemnly affirm under the penalties of perjury that: (i) I have reviewed the instructions for the MBE Utilization & Fair Solicitation Affidavit and MBE Schedule, and (ii) the information contained in the MBE Utilization & Fair Solicitation Affidavit and MBE Schedule is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Offeror Name
(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

Signature of Authorized Representative

Address

Printed Name and Title

City, State and Zip Code

Date

SUBMIT THIS AFFIDAVIT WITH PROPOSAL

MBE ATTACHMENT D-1B

WAIVER GUIDANCE

GUIDANCE FOR DOCUMENTING GOOD FAITH EFFORTS TO MEET MBE PARTICIPATION GOALS

In order to show that it has made good faith efforts to meet the Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) participation goal (including any MBE subgoals) on a contract, the Offeror must either (1) meet the MBE Goal(s) and document its commitments for participation of MBE Firms, or (2) when it does not meet the MBE Goal(s), document its Good Faith Efforts to meet the goal(s).

I. Definitions

MBE Goal(s) – “MBE Goal(s)” refers to the MBE participation goal and MBE participation subgoal(s).

Good Faith Efforts – The “Good Faith Efforts” requirement means that when requesting a waiver, the Offeror must demonstrate that it took all necessary and reasonable steps to achieve the MBE Goal(s), which, by their scope, intensity, and appropriateness to the objective, could reasonably be expected to obtain sufficient MBE participation, even if those steps were not fully successful. Whether a Offeror that requests a waiver made adequate good faith efforts will be determined by considering the quality, quantity, and intensity of the different kinds of efforts that the Offeror has made. The efforts employed by the Offeror should be those that one could reasonably expect a Offeror to take if the Offeror were actively and aggressively trying to obtain MBE participation sufficient to meet the MBE contract goal and subgoals. Mere *pro forma* efforts are not good faith efforts to meet the MBE contract requirements. The determination concerning the sufficiency of the Offeror’s good faith efforts is a judgment call; meeting quantitative formulas is not required.

Identified Firms – “Identified Firms” means a list of the MBEs identified by the procuring agency during the goal setting process and listed in the procurement as available to perform the Identified Items of Work. It also may include additional MBEs identified by the Offeror as available to perform the Identified Items of Work, such as MBEs certified or granted an expansion of services after the procurement was issued. If the procurement does not include a list of Identified Firms, this term refers to all of the MBE Firms (if State-funded) the Offeror identified as available to perform the Identified Items of Work and should include all appropriately certified firms that are reasonably identifiable.

Identified Items of Work – “Identified Items of Work” means the Proposal items identified by the procuring agency during the goal setting process and listed in the procurement as possible items of work for performance by MBE Firms. It also may include additional portions of items of work the Offeror identified for performance by MBE Firms to increase the likelihood that the MBE Goal(s) will be achieved. If the procurement does not include a list of Identified Items of Work, this term refers to all of the items of work the Offeror identified as possible items of work for performance by MBE Firms and should include all reasonably identifiable work opportunities.

MBE Firms – “MBE Firms” refers to firms certified by the Maryland Department of Transportation (“MDOT”) under COMAR 21.11.03. Only MDOT-certified MBE Firms can participate in the State’s MBE Program.

II. Types of Actions Agency will Consider

The Offeror is responsible for making relevant portions of the work available to MBE subcontractors and suppliers and select those portions of the work or material needs consistent with the available MBE subcontractors and suppliers, so as to facilitate MBE participation. The following is a list of types of actions the procuring agency will consider as part of the Offeror's Good Faith Efforts when the Offeror fails to meet the MBE Goal(s). This list is not intended to be a mandatory checklist, nor is it intended to be exclusive or exhaustive. Other factors or types of efforts may be relevant in appropriate cases.

A. Identify Proposal Items as Work for MBE Firms

1. Identified Items of Work in Procurements
 - (a) Certain procurements will include a list of Proposal items identified during the goal setting process as possible work for performance by MBE Firms. If the procurement provides a list of Identified Items of Work, the Offeror shall make all reasonable efforts to solicit quotes from MBE Firms to perform that work.
 - (b) Offerors may, and are encouraged to, select additional items of work to be performed by MBE Firms to increase the likelihood that the MBE Goal(s) will be achieved.
2. Identified Items of Work by Offerors
 - (a) When the procurement does not include a list of Identified Items of Work or for additional Identified Items of Work, Offerors should reasonably identify sufficient items of work to be performed by MBE Firms.
 - (b) Where appropriate, Offerors should break out contract work items into economically feasible units to facilitate MBE participation, rather than perform these work items with their own forces. The ability or desire of a Prime contractor to perform the work of a contract with its own organization does not relieve the Offeror of the responsibility to make Good Faith Efforts.

B. Identify MBE Firms to Solicit

1. MBE Firms Identified in Procurements
 - (a) Certain procurements will include a list of the MBE Firms identified during the goal setting process as available to perform the items of work. If the procurement provides a list of Identified MBE Firms, the Offeror shall make all reasonable efforts to solicit those MBE firms.
 - (b) Offerors may, and are encouraged to, search the MBE Directory to identify additional MBEs who may be available to perform the items of work, such as MBEs certified or granted an expansion of services after the solicitation was issued.
2. MBE Firms Identified by Offerors
 - (a) When the procurement does not include a list of Identified MBE Firms, Offerors should reasonably identify the MBE Firms that are available to perform the Identified Items of Work.
 - (b) Any MBE Firms identified as available by the Offeror should be certified to perform the Identified Items of Work.

C. Solicit MBEs

1. Solicit all Identified Firms for all Identified Items of Work by providing written notice. The Offeror should:
 - (a) provide the written solicitation at least 10 days prior to Proposal opening to allow sufficient time for the MBE Firms to respond;
 - (b) send the written solicitation by first-class mail, facsimile, or email using contact information in the MBE Directory, unless the Offeror has a valid basis for using different contact information; and
 - (c) provide adequate information about the plans, specifications, anticipated time schedule for portions of the work to be performed by the MBE, and other requirements of the contract to assist MBE Firms in responding. (This information may be provided by including hard copies in the written solicitation or by electronic means as described in C.3 below.)
2. "All" Identified Firms includes the MBEs listed in the procurement and any MBE Firms you identify as potentially available to perform the Identified Items of Work, but it does not include MBE Firms who are no longer certified to perform the work as of the date the Offeror provides written solicitations.
3. "Electronic Means" includes, for example, information provided *via* a website or file transfer protocol (FTP) site containing the plans, specifications, and other requirements of the contract. If an interested MBE cannot access

the information provided by electronic means, the Offeror must make the information available in a manner that is accessible to the interested MBE.

4. Follow up on initial written solicitations by contacting MBEs to determine if they are interested. The follow up contact may be made:
 - (a) by telephone using the contact information in the MBE Directory, unless the Offeror has a valid basis for using different contact information; or
 - (b) in writing *via* a method that differs from the method used for the initial written solicitation.
5. In addition to the written solicitation set forth in C.1 and the follow up required in C.4, use all other reasonable and available means to solicit the interest of MBE Firms certified to perform the work of the contract. Examples of other means include:
 - (a) attending any pre-proposal meetings at which MBE Firms could be informed of contracting and subcontracting opportunities; and
 - (b) if recommended by the procurement, advertising with or effectively using the services of at least two minority focused entities or media, including trade associations, minority/women community organizations, minority/women contractors' groups, and local, state, and federal minority/women business assistance offices listed on the MDOT Office of Minority Business Enterprise website.

D. Negotiate With Interested MBE Firms

Offerors must negotiate in good faith with interested MBE Firms.

1. Evidence of negotiation includes, without limitation, the following:
 - (a) the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of MBE Firms that were considered;
 - (b) a description of the information provided regarding the plans and specifications for the work selected for subcontracting and the means used to provide that information; and
 - (c) evidence as to why additional agreements could not be reached for MBE Firms to perform the work.
2. An Offeror using good business judgment would consider a number of factors in negotiating with subcontractors, including MBE subcontractors, and would take a firm's price and capabilities as well as contract goals into consideration.
3. The fact that there may be some additional costs involved in finding and using MBE Firms is not in itself sufficient reason for a Offeror's failure to meet the contract MBE goal(s), as long as such costs are reasonable. Factors to take into consideration when determining whether an MBE Firm's quote is excessive or unreasonable include, without limitation, the following:
 - (a) dollar difference between the MBE subcontractor's quote and the average of the other subcontractors' quotes received by the Offeror;
 - (b) percentage difference between the MBE subcontractor's quote and the average of the other subcontractors' quotes received by the Offeror;
 - (c) percentage that the MBE subcontractor's quote represents of the overall contract amount;
 - (d) number of MBE firms that the Offeror solicited for that portion of the work;
 - (e) whether the work described in the MBE and Non-MBE subcontractor quotes (or portions thereof) submitted for review is the same or comparable; and
 - (f) number of quotes received by the Offeror for that portion of the work.
4. The above factors are not intended to be mandatory, exclusive, or exhaustive, and other evidence of an excessive or unreasonable price may be relevant.
5. The Offeror may not use its price for self-performing work as a basis for rejecting an MBE Firm's quote as excessive or unreasonable.
6. The "average of the other subcontractors' quotes received" by the Offeror refers to the average of the quotes received from all subcontractors. Offeror should attempt to receive quotes from at least three subcontractors, including one quote from an MBE and one quote from a Non-MBE.
7. An Offeror shall not reject an MBE Firm as unqualified without sound reasons based on a thorough

investigation of the firm's capabilities. For each certified MBE that is rejected as unqualified or that placed a subcontract quotation or offer that the Offeror concludes is not acceptable, the Offeror must provide a written detailed statement listing the reasons for this conclusion. The Offeror also must document the steps taken to verify the capabilities of the MBE and Non-MBE Firms quoting similar work.

- (a) The factors to take into consideration when assessing the capabilities of an MBE Firm, include, but are not limited to the following: financial capability, physical capacity to perform, available personnel and equipment, existing workload, experience performing the type of work, conduct and performance in previous contracts, and ability to meet reasonable contract requirements.
- (b) The MBE Firm's standing within its industry, membership in specific groups, organizations, or associations and political or social affiliations (for example union vs. non-union employee status) are not legitimate causes for the rejection or non-solicitation of bids in the efforts to meet the project goal.

E. Assisting Interested MBE Firms

When appropriate under the circumstances, the decision-maker will consider whether the Offeror made reasonable efforts to assist interested MBE Firms in obtaining:

1. The bonding, lines of credit, or insurance required by the procuring agency or the Offeror; and
2. Necessary equipment, supplies, materials, or related assistance or services.

III. Other Considerations

In making a determination of Good Faith Efforts the decision-maker may consider engineering estimates, catalogue prices, general market availability and availability of certified MBE Firms in the area in which the work is to be performed, other bids or offers and subcontract bids or offers substantiating significant variances between certified MBE and Non-MBE costs of participation, and their impact on the overall cost of the contract to the State and any other relevant factors.

The decision-maker may take into account whether an Offeror decided to self-perform subcontract work with its own forces, especially where the self-performed work is Identified Items of Work in the procurement. The decision-maker also may take into account the performance of other Offerors in meeting the contract. For example, when the apparent successful Offeror fails to meet the contract goal, but others meet it, this reasonably raises the question of whether, with additional reasonable efforts, the apparent successful Offeror could have met the goal. If the apparent successful Offeror fails to meet the goal, but meets or exceeds the average MBE participation obtained by other Offerors, this, when viewed in conjunction with other factors, could be evidence of the apparent successful Offeror having made Good Faith Efforts.

IV. Documenting Good Faith Efforts

At a minimum, an Offeror seeking a waiver of the MBE Goal(s) or a portion thereof must provide written documentation of its Good Faith Efforts, in accordance with COMAR 21.11.03.11, within 10 business days after receiving notice that it is the apparent awardee. The written documentation shall include the following:

A. Items of Work (Complete Good Faith Efforts Documentation Attachment D-1C, Part 1)

A detailed statement of the efforts made to select portions of the work proposed to be performed by certified MBE Firms in order to increase the likelihood of achieving the stated MBE Goal(s).

B. Outreach/Solicitation/Negotiation

1. The record of the Offeror's compliance with the outreach efforts prescribed by COMAR 21.11.03.09C(2)(a). **(Complete Outreach Efforts Compliance Statement – Attachment D-2).**
2. A detailed statement of the efforts made to contact and negotiate with MBE Firms including:
 - (a) the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the MBE Firms who were contacted, with the dates and manner of contacts (letter, fax, email, telephone, etc.) **(Complete Good Faith Efforts Attachment D-1C- Part 2, and submit letters, fax cover sheets, emails, etc. documenting solicitations);** and
 - (b) a description of the information provided to MBE Firms regarding the plans, specifications, and anticipated time schedule for portions of the work to be performed and the means used to provide that information.

C. Rejected MBE Firms (Complete Good Faith Efforts Attachment D-1C, Part 3)

1. For each MBE Firm that the Offeror concludes is not acceptable or qualified, a detailed statement of the reasons for

the Offeror's conclusion, including the steps taken to verify the capabilities of the MBE and Non-MBE Firms quoting similar work.

2. For each certified MBE Firm that the Offeror concludes has provided an excessive or unreasonable price, a detailed statement of the reasons for the Offeror's conclusion, including the quotes received from all MBE and Non-MBE firms bidding on the same or comparable work. **(Include copies of all quotes received.)**
3. A list of MBE Firms contacted but found to be unavailable. This list should be accompanied by an MBE Unavailability Certificate (see **D-1B - Exhibit A** to this Part 1) signed by the MBE contractor or a statement from the Offeror that the MBE contractor refused to sign the MBE Unavailability Certificate.

D. Other Documentation

1. Submit any other documentation requested by the Procurement Officer to ascertain the Offeror's Good Faith Efforts.
2. Submit any other documentation the Offeror believes will help the Procurement Officer ascertain its Good Faith Efforts.

MBE ATTACHMENT D-1B - Exhibit A
MBE Subcontractor Unavailability Certificate

1. It is hereby certified that the firm of _____
(Name of Minority firm)
located at _____
(Number) (Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)
was offered an opportunity to bid on Solicitation No. _____
in _____ County by _____
(Name of Prime Contractor's Firm)

2. _____ (Minority Firm), is either unavailable for the
work/service or unable to prepare a bid for this project for the following reason(s):

Signature of Minority Firm's MBE Representative

Title

Date

MDOT CERTIFICATION #

TELEPHONE #

.....

3. To be completed by the prime contractor if Section 2 of this form is not completed by the minority firm.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, said Certified Minority Business Enterprise is either unavailable for the work/service for this project, is unable to prepare a bid, or did not respond to a request for a price proposal and has not completed the above portion of this submittal.

Signature of Prime Contractor

Title

Date

MBE ATTACHMENT D-1C
GOOD FAITH EFFORTS DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT WAIVER REQUEST

PAGE __ OF __

Prime Contractor	Project Description	SOLICITATION NUMBER

PARTS 1, 2, AND 3 MUST BE INCLUDED WITH THIS CERTIFICATE ALONG WITH ALL DOCUMENTS SUPPORTING YOUR WAIVER REQUEST.

I affirm that I have reviewed **Attachment D-1B**, Waiver Guidance. I further affirm under penalties of perjury that the contents of Parts 1, 2, and 3 of this **Attachment D-1C** Good Faith Efforts Documentation Form are true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Company Name

Signature of Representative

Address

Printed Name and Title

City, State and Zip Code

Date

GOOD FAITH EFFORTS DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT WAIVER REQUEST

PART 1 – IDENTIFIED ITEMS OF WORK OFFEROR MADE AVAILABLE TO MBE FIRMS

PAGE __ OF __

Prime Contractor	Project Description	SOLICITATION NUMBER

Identify those items of work that the Offeror made available to MBE Firms. This includes, where appropriate, those items the Offeror identified and determined to subdivide into economically feasible units to facilitate the MBE participation. For each item listed, show the anticipated percentage of the total contract amount. It is the Offeror's responsibility to demonstrate that sufficient work to meet the goal was made available to MBE Firms, and the total percentage of the items of work identified for MBE participation equals or exceeds the percentage MBE goal set for the procurement. Note: If the procurement includes a list of Proposal items identified during the goal setting process as possible items of work for performance by MBE Firms, the Offeror should make all of those items of work available to MBE Firms or explain why that item was not made available. If the Offeror selects additional items of work to make available to MBE Firms, those additional items should also be included below.

Identified Items of Work	Was this work listed in the procurement?	Does Offeror normally self-perform this work?	Was this work made available to MBE Firms? If no, explain why?
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

☐ Please check if Additional Sheets are attached.

GOOD FAITH EFFORTS DOCUMENTATION

TO SUPPORT WAIVER REQUEST

PART 2 – IDENTIFIED MBE FIRMS AND RECORD OF SOLICITATIONS

PAGE __ OF __

Prime Contractor	Project Description	SOLICITATION NUMBER

Identify the MBE Firms solicited to provide quotes for the Identified Items of Work made available for MBE participation. Include the name of the MBE Firm solicited, items of work for which quotes were solicited, date and manner of initial and follow-up solicitations, whether the MBE provided a quote, and whether the MBE is being used to meet the MBE participation goal. MBE Firms used to meet the participation goal must be included on the MBE Participation Schedule. Note: If the procurement includes a list of the MBE Firms identified during the goal setting process as potentially available to perform the items of work, the Offeror should solicit all of those MBE Firms or explain why a specific MBE was not solicited. If the Offeror identifies additional MBE Firms who may be available to perform Identified Items of Work, those additional MBE Firms should also be included below. Copies of all written solicitations and documentation of follow-up calls to MBE Firms must be attached to this form. This list should be accompanied by a Minority Contractor Unavailability Certificate signed by the MBE contractor or a statement from the Offeror that the MBE contractor refused to sign the Minority Contractor Unavailability Certificate (see **Attachment D-1B – Exhibit A**). If the Offeror used a Non-MBE or is self-performing the identified items of work, Part 3 must be completed.

Name of Identified MBE Firm & MBE Classification	Describe Item of Work Solicited	Initial Solicitation Date & Method	Follow-up Solicitation Date & Method	Details for Follow-up Calls	Quote Rec'd	Quote Used	Reason Quote Rejected
Firm Name: <hr/> MBE Classification (Check only if requesting waiver of MBE subgoal.) <input type="checkbox"/> African American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Women-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Other MBE Classification		Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input type="checkbox"/> Email	Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input type="checkbox"/> Email	Time of Call: Spoke With: <input type="checkbox"/> Left Message	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Used Other MBE <input type="checkbox"/> Used Non-MBE <input type="checkbox"/> Self-performing
Firm Name: <hr/> MBE Classification (Check only if requesting waiver of MBE subgoal.) <input type="checkbox"/> African American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Women-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Other MBE Classification			Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input type="checkbox"/> Email	Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input type="checkbox"/> Email	Time of Call: Spoke With: <input type="checkbox"/> Left Message	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

☐ Please check if Additional Sheets are attached.

**GOOD FAITH EFFORTS DOCUMENTATION
TO SUPPORT WAIVER REQUEST**

PART 3 – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING REJECTED MBE QUOTES

PAGE __ OF __

Prime Contractor	Project Description	SOLICITATION NUMBER

This form must be completed if Part 2 indicates that an MBE quote was rejected because the Offeror is using a Non-MBE or is self-performing the Identified Items of Work. Provide the Identified Items Work, indicate whether the work will be self-performed or performed by a Non-MBE, and if applicable, state the name of the Non-MBE. Also include the names of all MBE and Non-MBE Firms that provided a quote and the amount of each quote.

Describe Identified Items of Work Not Being Performed by MBE (Include spec/section number from Proposal)	Self-performing or Using Non-MBE (Provide name)	Amount of Non-MBE Quote	Name of Other Firms who Provided Quotes & Whether MBE or Non-MBE	Amount Quoted	Indicate Reason Why MBE Quote Rejected & Briefly Explain
	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-performing <input type="checkbox"/> Using Non-MBE _____	\$ _____ –	_____ <input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> Non-MBE	\$ _____ –	<input type="checkbox"/> Price <input type="checkbox"/> Capabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-performing <input type="checkbox"/> Using Non-MBE _____	\$ _____ –	_____ <input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> Non- MBE	\$ _____ –	<input type="checkbox"/> Price <input type="checkbox"/> Capabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-performing <input type="checkbox"/> Using Non-MBE _____	\$ _____ –	_____ <input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> Non- MBE	\$ _____ –	<input type="checkbox"/> Price <input type="checkbox"/> Capabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-performing <input type="checkbox"/> Using Non- MBE _____	\$ _____ –	_____ <input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> Non- MBE	\$ _____ –	<input type="checkbox"/> Price <input type="checkbox"/> Capabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-performing <input type="checkbox"/> Using Non- MBE _____	\$ _____ –	_____ <input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> Non- MBE	\$ _____ –	<input type="checkbox"/> Price <input type="checkbox"/> Capabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-performing <input type="checkbox"/> Using Non- MBE _____	\$ _____ –	_____ <input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> Non- MBE	\$ _____ –	<input type="checkbox"/> Price <input type="checkbox"/> Capabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Other

☐ Please check if Additional Sheets are attached.

MBE ATTACHMENT D-2
OUTREACH EFFORTS COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

Complete and submit this form within 10 Business Days of notification of apparent award or actual award, whichever is earlier.

In conjunction with the Proposal submitted in response to Solicitation No. _____, I state the following:

1. Offeror identified subcontracting opportunities in these specific work categories:

2. Attached to this form are copies of written solicitations (with bidding/proposal instructions) used to solicit certified MBE firms for these subcontract opportunities.

3. Offeror made the following attempts to personally contact the solicited MDOT-certified MBE firms:

4. **Please Check One:**

- ☐ This project does not involve bonding requirements.
- ☐ Offeror assisted MDOT-certified MBE firms to fulfill or seek waiver of bonding requirements. (DESCRIBE EFFORTS): _____

5. **Please Check One:**

- ☐ Offeror did attend the pre-proposal conference.
- ☐ No pre-Proposal meeting/conference was held.
- ☐ Offeror did not attend the pre-Proposal conference.

Company Name

Signature of Representative

Address

Printed Name and Title

City, State and Zip Code

Date

MBE ATTACHMENT D-3A

MBE SUBCONTRACTOR PROJECT PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATION

PLEASE COMPLETE AND SUBMIT ONE FORM FOR EACH CERTIFIED MBE FIRM LISTED ON THE MBE PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE (ATTACHMENT D-1A) WITHIN 10 BUSINESS DAYS OF NOTIFICATION OF APPARENT AWARD. IF THE OFFEROR FAILS TO RETURN THIS AFFIDAVIT WITHIN THE REQUIRED TIME, THE PROCUREMENT OFFICER MAY DETERMINE THAT THE PROPOSAL IS NOT SUSCEPTIBLE OF BEING SELECTED FOR CONTRACT AWARD.

Provided that _____ (Prime Contractor's Name) is awarded the State Contract in conjunction with Solicitation No. _____, such Prime Contractor intends to enter into a subcontract with _____ (Subcontractor's Name) committing to participation by the MBE firm _____ (MBE Name) with MDOT Certification Number _____ which will receive at least \$ _____ which equals to ____% of the Total Contract Amount for performing the following products/services for the Contract:

NAICS CODE	WORK ITEM, SPECIFICATION NUMBER, LINE ITEMS OR WORK CATEGORIES (IF APPLICABLE)	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIFIC PRODUCTS AND/OR SERVICES

Each of the Contractor and Subcontractor acknowledges that, for purposes of determining the accuracy of the information provided herein, the Procurement Officer may request additional information, including, without limitation, copies of the subcontract agreements and quotes. Each of the Contractor and Subcontractor solemnly affirms under the penalties of perjury that: (i) the information provided in this MBE Subcontractor Project Participation Affidavit is true to the best of its knowledge, information and belief, and (ii) it has fully complied with the State Minority Business Enterprise Law, State Finance and Procurement Article §14-308(a)(2), Annotated Code of Maryland which provides that, except as otherwise provided by law, a contractor may not identify a certified minority business enterprise in a Proposal and:

- (1) fail to request, receive, or otherwise obtain authorization from the certified minority business enterprise to identify the certified Minority Business Enterprise in its Proposal;
- (2) fail to notify the certified Minority Business Enterprise before execution of the Contract of its inclusion of the Proposal;
- (3) fail to use the certified Minority Business Enterprise in the performance of the Contract; or
- (4) pay the certified Minority Business Enterprise solely for the use of its name in the Proposal.

PRIME CONTRACTOR	SUBCONTRACTOR
Signature of Representative: _____	Signature of Representative: _____
Printed Name and Title: _____	Printed Name and Title: _____
Firm's Name: _____	Firm's Name: _____
Federal Identification Number: _____	Federal Identification Number: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
Telephone: _____	Telephone: _____
Date: _____	Date: _____

MBE ATTACHMENT D-3B
MBE PRIME - PROJECT PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATION

PLEASE COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THIS FORM TO ATTEST EACH SPECIFIC ITEM OF WORK THAT YOUR MBE FIRM HAS LISTED ON THE MBE PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE (ATTACHMENT D-1A) FOR PURPOSES OF MEETING THE MBE PARTICIPATION GOALS. THIS FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN 10 BUSINESS DAYS OF NOTIFICATION OF APPARENT AWARD. IF THE OFFEROR FAILS TO RETURN THIS AFFIDAVIT WITHIN THE REQUIRED TIME, THE PROCUREMENT OFFICER MAY DETERMINE THAT THE PROPOSAL IS NOT SUSCEPTIBLE OF BEING SELECTED FOR CONTRACT AWARD.

Provided that _____ (Prime Contractor's Name) with
 Certification Number _____ is awarded the State contract in conjunction with Solicitation No. _____,
 such MBE Prime Contractor intends to perform with its own forces at least \$ _____
 which equals to ____ % of the Total Contract Amount for performing the following products/services for the Contract:

NAICS CODE	WORK ITEM, SPECIFICATION NUMBER, LINE ITEMS OR WORK CATEGORIES (IF APPLICABLE). FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, GENERAL CONDITIONS MUST BE LISTED SEPARATELY.	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIFIC PRODUCTS AND/OR SERVICES	VALUE OF THE WORK

MBE PRIME CONTRACTOR Signature of Representative: _____ Printed Name and Title: _____ Firm's Name: _____ Federal Identification Number: _____ Address: _____ Telephone: _____ Date: _____

MBE ATTACHMENT D-4A
Minority Business Enterprise Participation
MBE Prime Contractor Paid/Unpaid Invoice Report

Report #: _____ Reporting Period (Month/Year): _____ Prime Contractor: Report is due to the MBE Liaison by the 10th of the month following the month the services were provided. Note: Please number reports in sequence	Contract #: _____ Contracting Unit: _____ Contract Amount: _____ MBE Subcontract Amt: _____ Project Begin Date: _____ Project End Date: _____ Services Provided: _____
--	--

Prime Contractor:		Contact Person:																																					
Address:																																							
City:		State:	ZIP:																																				
Phone:	Fax:		E-mail:																																				
MBE Subcontractor Name:		Contact Person:																																					
Phone:	Fax:																																						
Subcontractor Services Provided:																																							
List all payments made to MBE subcontractor named above during this reporting period: <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 10%;"></th> <th style="width: 40%; text-align: center;"><u>Invoice#</u></th> <th style="width: 50%; text-align: center;"><u>Amount</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>2.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>3.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>4.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Total Dollars Paid: \$</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			<u>Invoice#</u>	<u>Amount</u>	1.			2.			3.			4.			Total Dollars Paid: \$		_____	List dates and amounts of any outstanding invoices: <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 10%;"></th> <th style="width: 40%; text-align: center;"><u>Invoice #</u></th> <th style="width: 50%; text-align: center;"><u>Amount</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>2.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>3.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>4.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Total Dollars Unpaid: \$</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			<u>Invoice #</u>	<u>Amount</u>	1.			2.			3.			4.			Total Dollars Unpaid: \$		_____
	<u>Invoice#</u>	<u>Amount</u>																																					
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Total Dollars Paid: \$		_____																																					
	<u>Invoice #</u>	<u>Amount</u>																																					
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2.																																							
3.																																							
4.																																							
Total Dollars Unpaid: \$		_____																																					

- If more than one MBE subcontractor is used for this contract, you must use separate D-4A forms for each subcontractor.
- Information regarding payments that the MBE prime will use for purposes of meeting the MBE participation goals must be reported separately in Attachment D-4B
- Return one copy (hard or electronic) of this form to the following addresses (electronic copy with signature and date is preferred):**

Contract Monitor: _____
Contracting Unit and Address: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
 (Required)

MBE ATTACHMENT D-4B
Minority Business Enterprise Participation
MBE Prime Contractor Report

MBE Prime Contractor: Certification Number: Report #: _____ Reporting Period (Month/Year): _____ MBE Prime Contractor: Report is due to the MBE Liaison by the ____ of the month following the month the services were provided. Note: Please number reports in sequence	Contract #: _____ Contracting Unit: _____ Contract Amount: _____ Total Value of the Work to the Self-Performed for purposes of Meeting the MBE participation goal/subgoals: _____ Project Begin Date: _____ Project End Date: _____
---	--

Contact Person:		
Address:		
City:	State:	ZIP:
Phone:	Fax: _____ E-mail: _____	

Invoice Number	Value of the Work	NAICS Code	Description of the Work

Return one copy (hard or electronic) of this form to the following addresses (electronic copy with signature and date is preferred):

Contract Monitor: _____ Contracting Unit and Address: _____ _____ _____ _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
 (Required)

MBE ATTACHMENT D-5
Minority Business Enterprise Participation
MBE Subcontractor Paid/Unpaid Invoice Report

Report #: _____ Reporting Period (Month/Year): _____ Report is due by the ____ of the month following the month the services were performed.	Contract #: _____ Contracting Unit: _____ MBE Subcontract Amount: _____ Project Begin Date: _____ Project End Date: _____ Services Provided: _____
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MBE Subcontractor Name: _____																																
MDOT Certification #: _____																																
Contact Person: _____		E-mail: _____																														
Address: _____																																
City: _____	State: _____	ZIP: _____																														
Phone: _____	Fax: _____																															
Subcontractor Services Provided:																																
List all payments received from Prime Contractor during reporting period indicated above. <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 5%;"></th> <th style="width: 40%; text-align: center;"><u>Invoice Amt</u></th> <th style="width: 15%; text-align: center;"><u>Date</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>2.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>3.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Total Dollars Paid: \$ _____</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			<u>Invoice Amt</u>	<u>Date</u>	1.			2.			3.			Total Dollars Paid: \$ _____			List dates and amounts of any unpaid invoices over 30 days old. <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 5%;"></th> <th style="width: 40%; text-align: center;"><u>Invoice Amt</u></th> <th style="width: 15%; text-align: center;"><u>Date</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>2.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>3.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Total Dollars Unpaid: \$ _____</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>Invoice Amt</u>	<u>Date</u>	1.			2.			3.			Total Dollars Unpaid: \$ _____		
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	<u>Invoice Amt</u>	<u>Date</u>																														
1.																																
2.																																
3.																																
Total Dollars Unpaid: \$ _____																																
Prime Contractor: _____		Contact Person: _____																														

Return one copy (hard or electronic) of this form to the following addresses (electronic copy with signature and date is preferred):

Contract Monitor: _____
Contracting Unit and Address: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
 (Required)

ATTACHMENTS E – VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

This solicitation does not include a Veteran-Owned Small Business Enterprise goal.

ATTACHMENT F – LIVING WAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SERVICE CONTRACTS

Living Wage Requirements for Service Contracts

- A. This contract is subject to the Living Wage requirements under Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 18, and the regulations proposed by the Commissioner of Labor and Industry (Commissioner). The Living Wage generally applies to a Contractor or Subcontractor who performs work on a State contract for services that is valued at \$100,000 or more. An employee is subject to the Living Wage if he/she is at least 18 years old or will turn 18 during the duration of the contract; works at least 13 consecutive weeks on the State Contract and spends at least one-half of the employee's time during any work week on the State Contract.
- B. The Living Wage Law does not apply to:
- (1) A Contractor who:
 - (a) Has a State contract for services valued at less than \$100,000, or
 - (b) Employs 10 or fewer employees and has a State contract for services valued at less than \$500,000.
 - (2) A Subcontractor who:
 - (a) Performs work on a State contract for services valued at less than \$100,000,
 - (b) Employs 10 or fewer employees and performs work on a State contract for services valued at less than \$500,000, or
 - (c) Performs work for a Contractor not covered by the Living Wage Law as defined in B(1)(b) above, or B(3) or C below.
 - (3) Service contracts for the following:
 - (a) Services with a Public Service Company;
 - (b) Services with a nonprofit organization;
 - (c) Services with an officer or other entity that is in the Executive Branch of the State government and is authorized by law to enter into a procurement ("Unit"); or
 - (d) Services between a Unit and a County or Baltimore City.
- C. If the Unit responsible for the State contract for services determines that application of the Living Wage would conflict with any applicable federal program, the Living Wage does not apply to the contract or program.
- D. A Contractor must not split or subdivide a State contract for services, pay an employee through a third party, or treat an employee as an independent Contractor or assign work to employees to avoid the imposition of any of the requirements of Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 18.
- E. Each Contractor/Subcontractor, subject to the Living Wage Law, shall post in a prominent and easily accessible place at the work site(s) of covered employees a notice of the Living Wage Rates, employee rights under the law, and the name, address, and telephone number of the Commissioner.
- F. The Commissioner shall adjust the wage rates by the annual average increase or decrease, if any, in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers for the Washington/Baltimore metropolitan area, or any successor index, for the previous calendar year, not later than 90 days after the start of each fiscal year. The Commissioner shall publish any adjustments to the wage rates on the Division of Labor and Industry's website. An employer subject to the Living Wage Law must comply with the rate requirements during the initial term of the contract and all subsequent renewal periods, including any increases in the wage rate, required by the Commissioner, automatically upon the effective date of the revised wage rate.

- G. A Contractor/Subcontractor who reduces the wages paid to an employee based on the employer's share of the health insurance premium, as provided in Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, §18-103(c), shall not lower an employee's wage rate below the minimum wage as set in Md. Code Ann., Labor and Employment Article, §3-413. A Contractor/Subcontractor who reduces the wages paid to an employee based on the employer's share of health insurance premium shall comply with any record reporting requirements established by the Commissioner.
- H. A Contractor/Subcontractor may reduce the wage rates paid under Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, §18-103(a), by no more than 50 cents of the hourly cost of the employer's contribution to an employee's deferred compensation plan. A Contractor/Subcontractor who reduces the wages paid to an employee based on the employer's contribution to an employee's deferred compensation plan shall not lower the employee's wage rate below the minimum wage as set in Md. Code Ann., Labor and Employment Article, §3-413.
- I. Under Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 18, if the Commissioner determines that the Contractor/Subcontractor violated a provision of this title or regulations of the Commissioner, the Contractor/Subcontractor shall pay restitution to each affected employee, and the State may assess liquidated damages of \$20 per day for each employee paid less than the Living Wage.
- J. Information pertaining to reporting obligations may be found by going to the Division of Labor and Industry website <http://www.dllr.state.md.us/labor/prev/livingwage.shtml>.

Maryland Living Wage Requirements Affidavit of Agreement

(submit with Proposal)

Contract No. _____

Name of Contractor _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

If the Contract Is Exempt from the Living Wage Law

The Undersigned, being an authorized representative of the above named Contractor, hereby affirms that the Contract is exempt from Maryland's Living Wage Law for the following reasons (check all that apply):

- ☐ Offeror is a nonprofit organization
- ☐ Offeror is a public service company
- ☐ Offeror employs 10 or fewer employees and the proposed contract value is less than \$500,000
- ☐ Offeror employs more than 10 employees and the proposed contract value is less than \$100,000

If the Contract Is a Living Wage Contract

A. The Undersigned, being an authorized representative of the above-named Contractor, hereby affirms its commitment to comply with Title 18, State Finance and Procurement Article, Annotated Code of Maryland and, if required, submit all payroll reports to the Commissioner of Labor and Industry with regard to the above stated contract. The Offeror agrees to pay covered employees who are subject to living wage at least the living wage rate in effect at the time service is provided for hours spent on State contract activities, and ensure that its Subcontractors who are not exempt also pay the required living wage rate to their covered employees who are subject to the living wage for hours spent on a State contract for services. The Contractor agrees to comply with, and ensure its Subcontractors comply with, the rate requirements during the initial term of the contract and all subsequent renewal periods, including any increases in the wage rate established by the Commissioner of Labor and Industry, automatically upon the effective date of the revised wage rate.

B. _____ (initial here if applicable) The Offeror affirms it has no covered employees for the following reasons: (check all that apply):

- ☐ The employee(s) proposed to work on the contract will spend less than one-half of the employee's time during any work week on the contract
- ☐ The employee(s) proposed to work on the contract is 17 years of age or younger during the duration of the contract; or
- ☐ The employee(s) proposed to work on the contract will work less than 13 consecutive weeks on the State contract.

Name of Authorized Representative: _____

Date _____

Title

Witness Name (Typed or Printed)

Date _____

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A Summary of Certain Federal Fund Requirements and Restrictions

1. Form and rule enclosed: 18 U.S.C. 1913 and Section 1352 of P.L. 101-121 require that all *prospective* and present sub-grantees (this includes all levels of funding) who receive more than \$100,000 in federal funds must submit the form "Certification Against Lobbying." It assures, generally, that recipients will not lobby federal entities with federal funds, and that, as is required, they will disclose other lobbying on form SF- LLL.
2. Form and instructions enclosed: "Form LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities" must be submitted by those receiving more than \$100,000 in federal funds, to disclose any lobbying of federal entities (a) with profits from federal contracts or (b) funded with nonfederal funds.
3. Form and summary of Act enclosed: Sub-recipients of federal funds on any level must complete a "Certification Regarding Environmental Tobacco Smoke," required by Public Law 103-227, the Pro-Children Act of 1994. Such law prohibits smoking in any portion of any indoor facility owned or leased or contracted for regular provision of health, day care, early childhood development, education, or library services for children under the age of 18. Such language must be included in the conditions of award (they are included in the certification, which may be part of such conditions.) This does not apply to those solely receiving Medicaid or Medicare, or facilities where WIC coupons are redeemed.
4. In addition, federal law requires that:
 - A) Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 200, specifically Subpart D, requires that grantees (both recipients and sub-recipients) which expend a total of \$750,000 in federal assistance shall have a single or program-specific audit conducted for that year in accordance with the provisions of the Single Audit Act of 1984, P.L. 98-502, and the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996, P.L. 104-156 and Title 2 CFR 200, Subpart D. All sub-grantee audit reports, performed in compliance with Title 2 CFR 200 shall be forwarded within 30 days of report issuance to the Department Contract Monitor.
 - B) All sub-recipients of federal funds comply with Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the conditions of which are summarized in item (C).
 - C) Recipients of \$10,000 or more (on any level) must include in their contract language the requirements of Sections 503 (language specified) and 504 referenced in item (B).

Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, requires recipients to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified disabled people. An affirmative action program must be prepared and maintained by all contractors with 50 or more employees and one or more federal contracts of \$50,000 or more.

This clause must appear in subcontracts of \$10,000 or more:

- 1) The contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of physical or mental handicap in regard to any position for which the employee or applicant for employment is qualified. The contractor agrees to take affirmative action to employ, advance in employment and otherwise treat qualified handicapped individuals without discrimination based upon their physical or mental handicap in all upgrading, demotion or transfer, recruitment, advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship.
- 2) The contractor agrees to comply with the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to the act.
- 3) In the event of the contractor's non-compliance with the requirements of this clause, actions for non-compliance may be taken in accordance with the rules, regulations and relevant orders of the Secretary of

Labor issued pursuant to the Act.

- 4) The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices in a form to be prescribed by the director, provided by or through the contracting office. Such notices shall state the contractor's obligation under the law to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified handicapped employees and applicants for employment, and the rights of applicants and employees.
- 5) The contractor will notify each labor union or representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract understanding, that the contractor is bound by the terms of Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and committed to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment physically and mentally handicapped individuals.
- 6) The contractor will include the provisions of this clause in every subcontract or purchase order of \$10,000 or more unless exempted by rules, regulations, or orders of the [federal] Secretary issued pursuant to Section 503 of the Act, so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The contractor will take such action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as the Director of the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs may direct to enforce such provisions, including action for non-compliance.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. Sec. 791 et seq.) prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap in all federally assisted programs and activities. It requires the analysis and making of any changes needed in three general areas of operation- programs, activities, and facilities and employment. It states, among other things, that:

Grantees that provide health ... services should undertake tasks such as ensuring emergency treatment for the hearing impaired and making certain that persons with impaired sensory or speaking skills are not denied effective notice with regard to benefits, services, and waivers of rights or consents to treatments.

- D) All sub-recipients comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that they must not discriminate in participation by race, color, or national origin.
- E) All sub-recipients of federal funds from SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) or NIH (National Institute of Health) are prohibited from paying any direct salary at a rate more than Executive Level II of the Federal Executive pay scale, per year. (This includes, but is not limited to, sub-recipients of the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment and the Community Mental Health Block Grants and NIH research grants.)
- F) There may be no discrimination on the basis of age, according to the requirements of the Age Discrimination Act of 1975.
- G) For any education program, as required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, there may be no discrimination on the basis of sex.
- H) For research projects, a form for Protection of Human Subjects (Assurance/ Certification/ Declaration) should be completed by each level funded, assuring that either: (1) there are no human subjects involved, or (2) an Institutional Review Board (IRB) has given its formal approval before human subjects are involved in research. [This is normally done during the application process rather than after the award is made, as with other assurances and certifications.]
- I) In addition, there are conditions, requirements, and restrictions which apply only to specific sources of federal funding. These should be included in your grant/contract documents when applicable.

CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING
Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

- (1) No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- (2) If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.
- (3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all sub-awards at all tiers (including subcontracts, sub-grants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all sub-recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Award No.	Organizational Entry
Name and Title of Official Signing for Organizational Entry	Telephone No. Of Signing Official
Signature of Above Official	Date Signed

DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

Complete this form to disclose lobbying activities pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352

1. Type of Federal Action: <input type="checkbox"/> a. Contract <input type="checkbox"/> b. Grant <input type="checkbox"/> c. Cooperative Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> d. Loan <input type="checkbox"/> e. Loan guarantee <input type="checkbox"/> f. Loan insurance		2. Status of Federal Action: <input type="checkbox"/> a. Bid/offer/application <input type="checkbox"/> b. Initial award <input type="checkbox"/> c. Post-award		3. Report Type: <input type="checkbox"/> a. Initial filing <input type="checkbox"/> b. Material change For Material Change Only: Year _____ quarter _____ Date of last report _____	
4. Name and Address of Reporting Entity: <input type="checkbox"/> Prime <input type="checkbox"/> Subawardee Tier _____, if known: Congressional District, if known: _____			5. If Reporting Entity in No. 4 is a Subawardee, Enter Name and Address of Prime: Congressional District, if known: _____		
6. Federal Department/Agency: _____			7. Federal Program Name/Description: CFDA Number, if applicable: _____		
8. Federal Action Number, if known: _____			9. Award Amount, if known: \$ _____		
10. a. Name and Address of Lobbying Registrant (if individual, last name, first name, MI): _____			b. Individuals Performing Services (including address if different from No. 10a) (last name, first name, MI): _____		
11. Amount of Payment (check all that apply) \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> actual <input type="checkbox"/> planned			13. Type of Payment (check all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> a. retainer <input type="checkbox"/> b. one-time <input type="checkbox"/> c. commission <input type="checkbox"/> d. contingent fee <input type="checkbox"/> e. deferred <input type="checkbox"/> f. other; specify: _____		
12. Form of Payment (check all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> a. cash <input type="checkbox"/> b. in-kind; specify: nature _____ value _____					
14. Brief Description of Services Performed or to be Performed and Date(s) of Service, including officer(s), employee(s), or Member(s) contacted, for Payment Indicated in Item 11: (attach Continuation Sheet(s) SF-LLLA, if necessary)					
15. Continuation Sheet(s) SF-LLLA attached:			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
16. Information requested through this form is authorized by title 31 U.S.C. Section 1352. This disclosure of lobbying activities is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed by the tier above when this transaction was made or entered into. This disclosure is required pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352. This information will be available for public inspection. Any person who fails to file the required disclosure shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.			Signature: _____ Print Name: _____ Title: _____		

		Telephone No.: _____ Date: _____
Federal Use Only:		Authorized for Local Reproduction Standard Form LLL (Rev. 7-97)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION OF SF-LLL, DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

This disclosure form shall be completed by the reporting entity, whether sub-awardee or prime Federal recipient, at the initiation or receipt of a covered Federal action, or a material change to a previous filing, pursuant to title 31 U.S.C. Section 1352. The filing of a form is required for each payment or agreement to make payment to any lobbying entity for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with a covered Federal action. Complete all items that apply for both the initial filing and material change report. Refer to the implementing guidance published by the Office of Management and Budget for additional information.

1. Identify the type of covered Federal action for which lobbying activity is and/or has been secured to influence the outcome of a covered Federal action.
2. Identify the status of the covered Federal action.
3. Identify the appropriate classification of this report. If this is a follow-up report caused by a material change to the information previously reported, enter the year and quarter in which the change occurred. Enter the date of the last previously submitted report by this reporting entity for this covered Federal action.
4. Enter the full name, address, city, State and zip code of the reporting entity. Include Congressional District, if known. Check the appropriate classification of the reporting entity that designates if it is, or expects to be, a prime or sub-award recipient. Identify the tier of the sub-awardee, e.g., the first sub-awardee of the prime is the 1st tier. Sub-awards include but are not limited to subcontracts, sub-grants and contract awards under grants.
5. If the organization filing the report in item 4 checks "Sub-awardee," then enter the full name, address, city, State and zip code of the prime Federal recipient. Include Congressional District, if known.
6. Enter the name of the Federal agency making the award or loan commitment. Include at least one organizational level below agency name, if known. For example, Department of Transportation, United States Coast Guard.
7. Enter the Federal program name or description for the covered Federal action (item 1). If known, enter the full Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number for grants, cooperative agreements, loans, and loan commitments.
8. Enter the most appropriate Federal identifying number available for the Federal action identified in item 1 (e.g., Request for Proposal (RFP) number; Invitation for Bid (IFB) number; grant announcement number; the contract, grant, or loan award number; the application/proposal control number assigned by the Federal agency). Include prefixes, e.g., "RFP-DE-90-001."
9. For a covered Federal action where there has been an award or loan commitment by the Federal agency, enter the Federal amount of the award/loan commitment for the prime entity identified in item 4 or 5.
10. (a) Enter the full name, address, city, State and zip code of the lobbying registrant under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 engaged by the reporting entity identified in item 4 to influence the covered Federal action.
10. (b) Enter the full names of the individual(s) performing services, and include full address if different from 10 (a). Enter Last Name, First Name, and Middle Initial (MI).
11. The certifying official shall sign and date the form and print his/her name, title, and telephone number.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act, as amended, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB Control Number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is OMB No. 0348-0046. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0046), Washington, DC 20503.

CERTIFICATION REGARDING ENVIRONMENTAL TOBACCO SMOKE

Public Law 103-227, also known as the Pro-Children Act of 1994, Part C Environmental Tobacco Smoke, requires that smoking not be permitted in any portion of any indoor facility owned, or leased or contracted for by an entity and used routinely or regularly for provision of health, day care, early childhood development services, education or library services to children under the age of 18, if the services are funded by federal programs either directly or through State or local governments, by Federal grant, contract, loan, or loan guarantee. The law also applies to children's services that are provided in indoor facilities that are constructed, operated or maintained with such federal funds. The law does not apply to children's services provided in private residences, portions of facilities used for inpatient drug or alcohol treatment, service providers whose sole sources of applicable federal funds is Medicare or Medicaid, or facilities where WIC coupons are redeemed. Failure to comply with the provisions of the law may result in the imposition of a civil monetary penalty of up to \$1000 for each violation and/or the imposition of an administrative compliance order on the responsible entity.

By signing this certification, the offeror/contractor (for acquisitions) or applicant/grantee (for grants) certifies that the submitting organization will comply with the requirements of the Act and will not allow smoking within any portion of any indoor facility used for the provision of services for children as defined by the Act.

The submitting organization further agrees that it will require the language of this certification be included in any sub-awards which contain provisions for children's services and that all sub-recipients shall certify accordingly.

Signature of Authorized Certifying Individual

Reference COMAR 21.05.08.08

A. “Conflict of interest” means that because of other activities or relationships with other persons, a person is unable or potentially unable to render impartial assistance or advice to the State, or the person’s objectivity in performing the contract work is or might be otherwise impaired, or a person has an unfair competitive advantage.

B. “Person” has the meaning stated in COMAR 21.01.02.01B(64) and includes a Offeror, Contractor, consultant, or subcontractor or sub-consultant at any tier, and also includes an employee or agent of any of them if the employee or agent has or will have the authority to control or supervise all or a portion of the work for which a Proposal is made.

C. The Offeror warrants that, except as disclosed in §D, below, there are no relevant facts or circumstances now giving rise or which could, in the future, give rise to a conflict of interest.

D. The following facts or circumstances give rise or could in the future give rise to a conflict of interest (explain in detail — attach additional sheets if necessary):

E. The Offeror agrees that if an actual or potential conflict of interest arises after the date of this affidavit, the Offeror shall immediately make a full disclosure in writing to the Procurement Officer of all relevant facts and circumstances. This disclosure shall include a description of actions which the Offeror has taken and proposes to take to avoid, mitigate, or neutralize the actual or potential conflict of interest. If the contract has been awarded and performance of the contract has begun, the Contractor shall continue performance until notified by the Procurement Officer of any contrary action to be taken.

I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

Date:_____ By:_____
(Authorized Representative and Affiant)

SUBMIT THIS AFFIDAVIT WITH PROPOSAL

ATTACHMENT I – NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

THIS NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT (“Agreement”) is made by and between the State of Maryland (the “State”), acting by and through (Department) (the “Department”), and _____ (the “Contractor”).

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Contractor has been awarded a contract (the “Contract”) following the solicitation for State Weatherization Contractor Services Solicitation # S00R8400010; and

WHEREAS, in order for the Contractor to perform the work required under the Contract, it will be necessary for the State at times to provide the Contractor and the Contractor’s employees, agents, and subcontractors (collectively “Contractor’s Personnel”) with access to certain information the State deems confidential (the “Confidential Information”).

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of being given access to the Confidential Information in connection with the solicitation and the Contract, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which the parties acknowledge, the parties do hereby agree as follows:

1. Regardless of the form, format, or media on or in which the Confidential Information is provided and regardless of whether any such Confidential Information is marked as such, “Confidential Information” means (1) any and all information provided by or made available by the State to the Contractor in connection with the Contract and (2) any and all Personally Identifiable Information (PII) (including but not limited to personal information as defined in Md. Ann. Code, General Provisions §4-101(h)) and Protected Health Information (PHI) that is provided by a person or entity to the Contractor in connection with this Contract. Confidential Information includes, by way of example only, information that the Contractor views, takes notes from, copies (if the State agrees in writing to permit copying), possesses or is otherwise provided access to and use of by the State in relation to the Contract.
2. The Contractor shall not, without the State’s prior written consent, copy, disclose, publish, release, transfer, disseminate, use, or allow access for any purpose or in any form, any Confidential Information except for the sole and exclusive purpose of performing under the Contract. The Contractor shall limit access to the Confidential Information to the Contractor’s Personnel who have a demonstrable need to know such Confidential Information in order to perform under the Contract and who have agreed in writing to be bound by the disclosure and use limitations pertaining to the Confidential Information. The names of the Contractor’s Personnel are attached hereto and made a part hereof as ATTACHMENT I-1. The Contractor shall update ATTACHMENT I-1 by adding additional names (whether Contractor’s personnel or a subcontractor’s personnel) as needed, from time to time.
3. If the Contractor intends to disseminate any portion of the Confidential Information to non-employee agents who are assisting in the Contractor’s performance of the Contract or will otherwise have a role in performing any aspect of the Contract, the Contractor shall first obtain the written consent of the State to any such dissemination. The State may grant, deny, or condition any such consent, as it may deem appropriate in its sole and absolute subjective discretion.
4. The Contractor hereby agrees to hold the Confidential Information in trust and in strictest confidence, adopt or establish operating procedures and physical security measures, and take all other measures necessary to protect the Confidential Information from inadvertent release or disclosure to unauthorized third parties and to prevent all or any portion of the Confidential Information from falling into the public domain or into the possession of persons not bound to maintain the confidentiality of the Confidential Information.
5. The Contractor shall promptly advise the State in writing if it learns of any unauthorized use, misappropriation, or disclosure of the Confidential Information by any of the Contractor’s Personnel or the Contractor’s former Personnel. Contractor shall, at its own expense, cooperate with the State in seeking injunctive or other equitable relief against any such person(s).
6. The Contractor shall, at its own expense, return to the Department all copies of the Confidential Information in its

care, custody, control or possession upon request of the Department or on termination of the Contract. The Contractor shall complete and submit ATTACHMENT J-2 when returning the Confidential Information to the Department. At such time, the Contractor shall also permanently delete any Confidential Information stored electronically by the Contractor.

7. A breach of this Agreement by the Contractor or the Contractor's Personnel shall constitute a breach of the Contract between the Contractor and the State.
8. Contractor acknowledges that any failure by the Contractor or the Contractor's Personnel to abide by the terms and conditions of use of the Confidential Information may cause irreparable harm to the State and that monetary damages may be inadequate to compensate the State for such breach. Accordingly, the Contractor agrees that the State may obtain an injunction to prevent the disclosure, copying or improper use of the Confidential Information. The Contractor consents to personal jurisdiction in the Maryland State Courts. The State's rights and remedies hereunder are cumulative and the State expressly reserves any and all rights, remedies, claims and actions that it may have now or in the future to protect the Confidential Information and seek damages from the Contractor and the Contractor's Personnel for a failure to comply with the requirements of this Agreement. In the event the State suffers any losses, damages, liabilities, expenses, or costs (including, by way of example only, attorneys' fees and disbursements) that are attributable, in whole or in part to any failure by the Contractor or any of the Contractor's Personnel to comply with the requirements of this Agreement, the Contractor shall hold harmless and indemnify the State from and against any such losses, damages, liabilities, expenses, and costs.
9. Contractor and each of the Contractor's Personnel who receive or have access to any Confidential Information shall execute a copy of an agreement substantially similar to this Agreement, in no event less restrictive than as set forth in this Agreement, and the Contractor shall provide originals of such executed Agreements to the State.
10. The parties further agree that:
 - a. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Maryland;
 - b. The rights and obligations of the Contractor under this Agreement may not be assigned or delegated, by operation of law or otherwise, without the prior written consent of the State;
 - c. The State makes no representations or warranties as to the accuracy or completeness of any Confidential Information;
 - d. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision of this Agreement;
 - e. Signatures exchanged by facsimile are effective for all purposes hereunder to the same extent as original signatures;
 - f. The Recitals are not merely prefatory but are an integral part hereof; and
 - g. The effective date of this Agreement shall be the same as the effective date of the Contract entered into by the parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have, by their duly authorized representatives, executed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

Contractor: _____

(Department)

By: _____ (SEAL)

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT - ATTACHMENT I-1

**LIST OF CONTRACTOR'S EMPLOYEES AND AGENTS WHO WILL BE GIVEN ACCESS TO THE
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

Printed Name and Address of Individual/Agent	Employee (E) or Agent (A)	Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT – ATTACHMENT I-2

CERTIFICATION TO ACCOMPANY RETURN OR DELETION OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

I AFFIRM THAT:

To the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, and upon due inquiry, I hereby certify that: (i) all Confidential Information which is the subject matter of that certain Non-Disclosure Agreement by and between the State of Maryland and _____ (“Contractor”) dated _____, 20____ (“Agreement”) is attached hereto and is hereby returned to the State in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Agreement; and (ii) I am legally authorized to bind the Contractor to this affirmation. Any and all Confidential Information that was stored electronically by me has been permanently deleted from all of my systems or electronic storage devices where such Confidential Information may have been stored.

I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF, HAVING MADE DUE INQUIRY.

DATE: _____

NAME OF CONTRACTOR: _____

BY: _____
(Signature)

TITLE: _____
(Authorized Representative and Affiant)

ATTACHMENT J – HIPAA BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT

This solicitation does not require a HIPPA Business Associate Agreement

ATTACHMENT K – MERCURY AFFIDAVIT

This solicitation does not include the procurement of products known to likely include mercury as a component.

ATTACHMENT L – LOCATION OF THE PERFORMANCE OF SERVICES DISCLOSURE

This solicitation does not require a Location of the Performance of Services Disclosure.

THE REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT

STATE WEATHERIZATION CONTRACTOR SERVICES

Functional Area I: Weatherization and Energy Efficiency

And / Or

Functional Area II: Enhanced Weatherization

THIS CONTRACT (the “Contract”) is made as of the Effective Date, by and between [redacted] and the STATE OF MARYLAND, acting through the Department of Housing and Community Development.

In consideration of the promises and the covenants herein contained, the adequacy and sufficiency of which is duly acknowledged by the parties, the parties agree as follows:

1. Definitions

In this Contract, the following words have the meanings indicated:

- 1.1 “COMAR” means Code of Maryland Regulations.
- 1.2 “Contract” means this agreement between (Contractor’s name) and the Department of Housing and Community Development.
- 1.3 “Contract Monitor” means the following Department employee identified as the Contract Monitor:

Nicola Tran
Department of Housing and Community Development
7800 Harkins Road
Lanham, MD 20706
Office: (301) 429-7794
Email: nicola.tran@maryland.gov
- 1.4 “Completed Project” means a Project completed under this Contract, which has passed final inspection and for which a client satisfaction signature has been obtained.
- 1.5 “Contractor” means (Contractor’s name) whose principal business address is (Contractor’s primary address) and whose principal office in Maryland is (Contractor’s local address).
- 1.6 “Contractor’s Proposal” means, collectively, the Financial Proposal and Technical Proposal, as defined below.
- 1.7 “Department” means the Department of Housing and Community Development.
- 1.8 “Effective Date” means the later of: (a) the date upon which the Contract is fully executed; or (b) the effective date set by the Board of Public Works.
- 1.9 “Financial Proposal” means the Contractor’s Financial Proposal dated (Financial Proposal date), as revised and supplemented by the Contractor’s final BAFO submission, if any.
- 1.10 “HES” means Hancock Energy Software.
- 1.11 “POM” means Program Operations Manual.
- 1.12 “Procurement Officer” means the following Department employee identified as the Procurement Officer:

Amanda Sadler
Department of Housing and Community Development
7800 Harkins Road
Lanham, MD 20706
Office: (301) 429-7780
Email: amanda.sadler@maryland.gov

- 1.13 “Project” means approved work on a property assigned to the Contractor for services under this Contract, as further defined in the RFP and the Program Operations Manual. In the event of conflict between this definition and any contained in the RFP or Program Operations Manual, deference will be given first to the POM, second to this Contract, and third to the language in the body of the RFP.
- 1.14 “Proper Invoice” means an invoice submitted through the HES database for a Completed Project, which is supported by a Project file in the HES Database, and which must include up-to-date real-time Project stage progression, Project comments, Project inspection activity and notes, all required Project program documentation entered/uploaded to its appropriate location, and which is not submitted more than two (2) weeks after the Project becomes a Completed Project.
- 1.15 “RFP” means the Request for Proposals for State Weatherization Contractor Services, Solicitation # S00R8400010, and any addenda thereto issued in writing by the State.
- 1.16 “State” means the State of Maryland.
- 1.17 “Technical Proposal” means the Contractor’s Technical Proposal dated (Technical Proposal date), as revised and supplemented by the Contractor’s responses to the Department’s requests for clarifications and requests for cures, and any Best and Final Offer submissions.
- 1.18 “Warranty” means (a) the Contractor’s promise that all work, goods, services, products, supplies, and materials provided pursuant to this Contract shall be in good working order during the Warranty Period; and (b) the Contractor’s promise to remedy any defective work, goods, services, products, supplies, and materials provided under this Contract, including absorbing any labor costs relating to such remedy.
- 1.19 “Warranty Period” means a one calendar-year period from the date a Project becomes a Completed Project, and as further described in Section 2.5.
- 1.20 “Work” means the deliverables, programs, goods, and services to be provided pursuant to this Contract, as identified further in paragraph 2.1 and Exhibits A-C.

2. Scope of Contract

- 2.1 The Contractor shall provide Work for Functional Areas I and/or II, as defined in the RFP, specific to the Contract for State Weatherization awarded in accordance with Exhibits A-C listed in this section and incorporated as part of this Contract. If there is any conflict between this Contract and the Exhibits, the terms of the Contract shall govern. If there is any conflict among the Exhibits, the following order of precedence shall determine the prevailing provision:

Exhibit A – The RFP

Exhibit B – State Contract Affidavit, executed by the Contractor and dated (date of Attachment C)

Exhibit C – The Proposal (Technical and Financial)

In the event of a conflict between the language in the body of the RFP and the POM, the language of the POM shall take precedence.

- 2.2 The Procurement Officer may, at any time, by written order, make changes to the Work within the general scope of the Contract or the RFP. No other order, statement, or conduct of the Procurement Officer or any other person shall be treated as a change or entitle the Contractor to an equitable adjustment under this section.

Except as otherwise provided in this Contract, if any change under this section causes an increase or decrease in the Contractor's cost of, or the time required for, the performance of any part of the work, whether or not changed by the order, an equitable adjustment in the Contract price shall be made and the Contract modified in writing accordingly. The Contractor must assert in writing its right to an adjustment under this section within thirty (30) days of receipt of written change order and shall include a written statement setting forth the nature and cost of such claim. No claim by the Contractor shall be allowed if asserted after final payment under this Contract. Failure to agree to an adjustment under this section shall be a dispute under the Disputes clause. Nothing in this section shall excuse the Contractor from proceeding with the Contract as changed.

- 2.3 While the Procurement Officer may, at any time, by written change order, make unilateral changes to the Work within the general scope of the Contract as provided in Section 2.2 above, the Contract may be modified by mutual agreement of the parties, provided: (a) the modification is made in writing; (b) all parties sign the modification; and (c) all approvals by the required agencies as described in COMAR Title 21, are obtained.
- 2.4 The Contractor shall perform the Work with the standard of care, skill, and diligence normally provided by a Contractor in the performance of services similar to the Work hereunder. Notwithstanding any review, approval, acceptance or payment for the services by the Department, the Contractor shall be responsible for the professional and technical accuracy of its work, design, drawings, specifications and other materials furnished by the Contractor under this Contract.
- 2.5 The Contractor will provide a Warranty for the Warranty Period on all material and labor for work performed under this Contract from the date a Project under this Contract becomes a Completed Project. Remedies pursuant to the Warranty shall occur without additional charge to the Department or the property owner and within a reasonable period after the time of discovery of the defect. Products shall be installed for the purpose the manufacturer intended and in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions. Products shall be designed and rated for their intended use.

The Warranty also applies to items found to have failed due to improper installation by the Contractor or its agents. In such a case, where installation is not in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions, repairs under the Warranty are the sole responsibility of the Contractor, and the Warranty Period will reset for an additional one (1) year period upon completion of the correction of the defective installation.

3. Period of Performance.

- 3.1 The term of this Contract begins on the date the Contract is signed by the Department following any required approvals of the Contract, including approval by the Board of Public works, if such approval is required. The contract shall be for a period of approximately three (3) years beginning (anticipated Contract start date) and ending on (anticipated end date of base term of Contract).
- 3.2 The State, at its sole option, has the unilateral right to extend the term of the Contract for one additional one-year term at the prices quoted in the Financial Proposal for the Option Year.
- 3.3 No-cost extensions are permitted under this Contract where there is no change to the scope of work.
- 3.4 Audit, confidentiality, document retention, indemnification obligations, and warranties under this Contract shall survive expiration or termination of the Contract.

4. Consideration and Payment

- 4.1 In consideration of the satisfactory performance of the Work set forth in this Contract, the Department shall pay the Contractor in accordance with the terms of this Contract and at the prices quoted in the Financial Proposal at Exhibit C.
- 4.2 Contractor will submit Proper Invoices to the Department through the HES database no later than two (2) weeks after a Project becomes a Completed Project. Unless a payment is unauthorized, deferred, delayed, withheld, or set off under this Contract or COMAR 21.02.07, payments to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract shall be

made no later than 30 days after the State's receipt of a Proper Invoice from the Contractor. The Contractor may be eligible to receive late payment interest at a rate of 9% per annum if: (1) The Contractor submits an invoice for the late payment interest within 30 days after the date of the State's payment of the amount on which the interest accrued; and (2) A Contract claim has not been filed under State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 15, Subtitle 2, Annotated Code of Maryland. The State is not liable for interest: (1) accruing more than one year after the 31st day after the agency receives the Proper Invoice; or (2) on any amount representing unpaid interest. Charges for late payment of invoices are authorized only as prescribed by Title 15, Subtitle 1, of the State Finance and Procurement Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, or by the Public Service Commission of Maryland with respect to regulated public utilities, as applicable. Each invoice for services rendered must include the Contractor's Federal Tax Identification or Social Security Number for a Contractor who is an individual, which is (Contractor's FEIN or SSN). Charges for late payment of invoices other than as prescribed at Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, §15-104 are prohibited. Invoices shall be submitted to the Contract Monitor. Electronic funds transfer shall be used by the State to pay the Contractor pursuant to this Contract and any other State payments due the Contractor unless the State Comptroller's Office grants the Contractor an exemption.

- 4.3 In addition to any other available remedies, if the Contractor fails to perform in a satisfactory and timely manner, the Department may refuse or limit approval of any invoice for payment, and may cause payments to the Contractor to be reduced or withheld until such time as the Contractor meets performance standards as established by the Department.
- 4.4 Payment of an invoice by the Department is not evidence that services were rendered as required under this Contract. Where it is later discovered that an invoice was paid for a Project that is not compliant under this Contract and Program Guidelines, in breach of this Contract, the Department may require the Contractor to cure its breach by making the Project compliant, or may affirmatively collect damages for invoice amounts that were improperly paid, in accordance with paragraph 17 of this Contract.
- 4.5 Contractor's eMaryland Marketplace vendor ID number is (Contractor's eMM number).
- 4.6 This Contract shall be an indefinite quantity contract with unit prices of a firm fixed type contract as defined in COMAR 21.06.03.06.

5. Rights to Records

- 5.1 The Contractor agrees that all documents and materials including, but not limited to, software, reports, drawings, studies, specifications, estimates, tests, maps, photographs, designs, graphics, mechanical, artwork, computations, and data prepared by the Contractor for purposes of this Contract shall be the sole property of the State and shall be available to the State at any time. The State shall have the right to use the same without restriction and without compensation to the Contractor other than that specifically provided by this Contract.
- 5.2 The Contractor agrees that at all times during the term of this Contract and thereafter, works created as a deliverable under this Contract, and services performed under this Contract shall be "works made for hire" as that term is interpreted under U.S. copyright law. To the extent that any products created as a deliverable under this Contract are not works made for hire for the State, the Contractor hereby relinquishes, transfers, and assigns to the State all of its rights, title, and interest (including all intellectual property rights) to all such products created under this Contract, and will cooperate reasonably with the State in effectuating and registering any necessary assignments.
- 5.3 The Contractor shall report to the Contract Monitor, promptly and in written detail, each notice or claim of copyright infringement received by the Contractor with respect to all data delivered under this Contract.
- 5.4 The Contractor shall not affix any restrictive markings upon any data, documentation, or other materials provided to the State hereunder and if such markings are affixed, the State shall have the right at any time to modify, remove, obliterate, or ignore such warnings.
- 5.5 Upon termination of the Contract, the Contractor, at its own expense, shall deliver any equipment, software or

other property provided by the State to the place designated by the Procurement Officer.

6. Exclusive Use

- 6.1 The State shall have the exclusive right to use, duplicate, and disclose any data, information, documents, records, or results, in whole or in part, in any manner for any purpose whatsoever, that may be created or generated by the Contractor in connection with this Contract. If any material, including software, is capable of being copyrighted, the State shall be the copyright owner and Contractor may copyright material connected with this project only with the express written approval of the State.
- 6.2 Except as may otherwise be set forth in this Contract, Contractor shall not use, sell, sub-lease, assign, give, or otherwise transfer to any third party any other information or material provided to Contractor by the Department or developed by Contractor relating to the Contract, except that Contractor may provide said information to any of its officers, employees and subcontractors who Contractor requires to have said information for fulfillment of Contractor's obligations hereunder. Each officer, employee and/or subcontractor to whom any of the Department's confidential information is to be disclosed shall be advised by Contractor of and bound by confidentiality and intellectual property terms substantively equivalent to those of this Contract.

7. Patents, Copyrights, and Intellectual Property

- 7.1 If the Contractor furnishes any design, device, material, process, or other item, which is covered by a patent, trademark or service mark, or copyright or which is proprietary to, or a trade secret of, another, the Contractor shall obtain the necessary permission or license to permit the State to use such item or items.
- 7.2 The Contractor will defend or settle, at its own expense, any claim or suit against the State alleging that any such item furnished by the Contractor infringes any patent, trademark, service mark, copyright, or trade secret. If a third party claims that a product infringes that party's patent, trademark, service mark, trade secret, or copyright, the Contractor will defend the State against that claim at Contractor's expense and will pay all damages, costs, and attorney's' fees that a court finally awards, provided the State: (a) promptly notifies the Contractor in writing of the claim; and (b) allows Contractor to control and cooperates with Contractor in, the defense and any related settlement negotiations. The obligations of this paragraph are in addition to those stated in Section 7.3 below.
- 7.3 If any products furnished by the Contractor become, or in the Contractor's opinion are likely to become, the subject of a claim of infringement, the Contractor will, at its option and expense: (a) procure for the State the right to continue using the applicable item; (b) replace the product with a non-infringing product substantially complying with the item's specifications; or (c) modify the item so that it becomes non-infringing and performs in a substantially similar manner to the original item.

8. Confidential or Proprietary Information and Documentation

- 8.1 Subject to the Maryland Public Information Act and any other applicable laws including, without limitation, HIPAA, the HI-TECH ACT, and the Maryland Medical Records Act and the implementation of regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, all confidential or proprietary information and documentation relating to either party (including without limitation, any information or data stored within the Contractor's computer systems) shall be held in absolute confidence by the other party. Each party shall, however, be permitted to disclose relevant confidential information to its officers, agents, and employees to the extent that such disclosure is necessary for the performance of their duties under this Contract, provided that the data may be collected, used, disclosed, stored, and disseminated only as provided by and consistent with the law. The provisions of this section shall not apply to information that: (a) is lawfully in the public domain; (b) has been independently developed by the other party without violation of this Contract; (c) was already in the possession of such party; (d) was supplied to such party by a third party lawfully in possession thereof and legally permitted to further disclose the information; or (e) which such party is required to disclose by law.
- 8.2 This Section 8 shall survive expiration or termination of this Contract.

9. Loss of Data

In the event of loss of any State data or records where such loss is due to the intentional act or omission or negligence of the Contractor or any of its subcontractors or agents, the Contractor shall be responsible for recreating such lost data in the manner and on the schedule set by the Contract Monitor. The Contractor shall ensure that all data is backed up and recoverable by the Contractor. Contractor shall use its best efforts to assure that at no time shall any actions undertaken by the Contractor under this Contract (or any failures to act when Contractor has a duty to act) damage or create any vulnerabilities in databases, systems, platforms, and/or applications with which the Contractor is working hereunder.

10. Indemnification

- 10.1 The Contractor shall hold harmless and indemnify the State from and against any and all losses, damages, claims, suits, actions, liabilities, and/or expenses, including, without limitation, attorneys' fees and disbursements of any character that arise from, are in connection with or are attributable to the performance or nonperformance of the Contractor or its subcontractors under this Contract.
- 10.2 This indemnification clause shall not be construed to mean that the Contractor shall indemnify the State against liability for any losses, damages, claims, suits, actions, liabilities, and/or expenses that are solely attributable to the negligence of the State or the State's employees.
- 10.3 The State of Maryland has no obligation to provide legal counsel or defense to the Contractor or its subcontractors in the event that a suit, claim, or action of any character is brought by any person not party to this Contract against the Contractor or its subcontractors relating to this Contract.
- 10.4 The State has no obligation for the payment of any judgments or the settlement of any claims against the Contractor or its subcontractors relating to this Contract.
- 10.5 The Contractor shall immediately notify the Procurement Officer of any claim or suit made or filed against the Contractor or its subcontractors regarding any matter resulting from, or relating to, the Contractor's obligations under the Contract, and will cooperate, assist, and consult with the State in the defense or investigation of any claim, suit, or action made or filed against the State relating to this Contract.
- 10.6 This Section 10 shall survive termination of this Contract.
- 10.7 For any Project under this Contract for which a utility provides EmPOWER funding, the Contractor extends the same indemnification protections extended to the State to the applicable utility.

11. Non-Hiring of Officials and Employees

No official or employee of the State, as defined under Md. Code Ann., General Provisions Article, § 5-101, whose duties as such official or employee include matters relating to or affecting the subject matter of this Contract, shall, during the pendency and term of this Contract and while serving as an official or employee of the State, become or be an employee of the Contractor or any entity that is a subcontractor on this Contract.

12. Disputes

This Contract shall be subject to the provisions of Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 15, Subtitle 2, and COMAR 21.10 (Administrative and Civil Remedies). Pending resolution of a claim, the Contractor shall proceed diligently with the performance of the Contract in accordance with the Procurement Officer's decision. Unless a lesser period is provided by applicable statute, regulation, or the Contract, the Contractor must file a written notice of claim with the Procurement Officer within thirty (30) days after the basis for the claim is known or should have been known, whichever is earlier. Contemporaneously with or within thirty (30) days of the filing of a notice of claim, but no later than the date of final payment under the Contract, the Contractor must submit to the Procurement Officer its written claim containing the information specified in COMAR 21.10.04.02.

13. Maryland Law

- 13.1 This Contract shall be construed, interpreted, and enforced according to the laws of the State of Maryland.

- 13.2 The Maryland Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act (Commercial Law Article, Title 22 of the Annotated Code of Maryland) does not apply to this Contract or to any purchase order or Notice to Proceed issued under this Contract, or any software, or any software license required hereunder.
- 13.3 Any and all references to the Maryland Code, Annotated contained in this Contract shall be construed to refer to such Code sections as are from time to time amended.

14. Nondiscrimination in Employment

The Contractor agrees: (a) not to discriminate in any manner against an employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, creed, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identification, marital status, national origin, ancestry, genetic information, or any otherwise unlawful use of characteristics, or disability of a qualified individual with a disability unrelated in nature and extent so as to reasonably preclude the performance of the employment, or the individual's refusal to submit to a genetic test or make available the results of a genetic test; (b) to include a provision similar to that contained in subsection (a), above, in any underlying subcontract except a subcontract for standard commercial supplies or raw materials; and (c) to post and to cause subcontractors to post in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting forth the substance of this clause.

15. Contingent Fee Prohibition

The Contractor warrants that it has not employed or retained any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee, bona fide agent, bona fide sales person, or commercial selling agency working for the Contractor, to solicit or secure the Contract, and that the business has not paid or agreed to pay any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee, bona fide agent, bona fide sales person, or commercial selling agency, any fee or any other consideration contingent on the making of this Contract.

16. Non-availability of Funding

If the General Assembly, Public Service Commission, Federal Government, or any other funding source fails to appropriate funds or if funds are not otherwise made available for continued performance for any fiscal period of this Contract succeeding the first fiscal period, this Contract shall be canceled automatically as of the beginning of the fiscal year for which funds were not appropriated or otherwise made available; provided, however, that this will not affect either the State's or the Contractor's rights under any termination clause in this Contract. The effect of termination of the Contract hereunder will be to discharge both the Contractor and the State from future performance of the Contract, but not from their rights and obligations existing at the time of termination. The Contractor shall be reimbursed for the reasonable value of any nonrecurring costs incurred but not amortized in the price of the Contract. The State shall notify the Contractor as soon as it has knowledge that funds may not be available for the continuation of this Contract for each succeeding fiscal period beyond the first.

Costs incurred by the Contractor in anticipation of funding but without authorization of incurring costs through this contract are at the Contractor's risk and are not reimbursable by the State.

17. Termination for Default

If the Contractor fails to fulfill its obligations under this Contract properly and on time, or otherwise violates any provision of the Contract, the State may terminate the Contract by written notice to the Contractor. The notice shall specify the acts or omissions relied upon as cause for termination. All finished or unfinished work provided by the Contractor shall, at the State's option, become the State's property. The State shall pay the Contractor fair and equitable compensation for satisfactory performance prior to receipt of notice of termination, less the amount of damages caused by the Contractor's breach. If the damages are more than the compensation payable to the Contractor, the Contractor will remain liable after termination and the State can affirmatively collect damages. Termination hereunder, including the termination of the rights and obligations of the parties, shall be governed by the provisions of COMAR 21.07.01.11B.

18. Termination for Convenience

The performance of Work under this Contract may be terminated by the State in accordance with this clause in whole, or from time to time in part, whenever the State shall determine that such termination is in the best interest of the State. The State will pay all reasonable costs associated with this Contract that the Contractor has incurred up to the date of termination, and all reasonable costs associated with termination of the Contract, however, the Contractor shall not be reimbursed for any anticipatory profits that have not been earned up to the date of termination. Termination hereunder, including the determination of the rights and obligations of the parties, shall be governed by the provisions of COMAR 21.07.01.12A(2).

19. Delays and Extensions of Time

The Contractor agrees to prosecute the Work continuously and diligently and no charges or claims for damages shall be made by it for any delays, interruptions, interferences, or hindrances from any cause whatsoever during the progress of any portion of the Work specified in this Contract.

Time extensions will be granted only for excusable delays that arise from unforeseeable causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor, including but not restricted to, acts of God, acts of the public enemy, acts of the State in either its sovereign or contractual capacity, acts of another Contractor in the performance of a contract with the State, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, strikes, freight embargoes, or delays of subcontractors or suppliers arising from unforeseeable causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of either the Contractor or the subcontractors or suppliers.

20. Suspension of Work

The State unilaterally may order the Contractor in writing to suspend, delay, or interrupt all or any part of its performance for such period of time as the Procurement Officer may determine to be appropriate for the convenience of the State.

21. Pre-Existing Regulations

In accordance with the provisions of Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, § 11-206, the regulations set forth in Title 21 of the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR 21) in effect on the date of execution of this Contract are applicable to this Contract.

22. Financial Disclosure

The Contractor shall comply with the provisions of Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, § 13-221, which requires that every person that enters into contracts, leases, or other agreements with the State or its agencies during a calendar year under which the business is to receive in the aggregate, \$100,000 or more, shall within thirty (30) days of the time when the aggregate value of these contracts, leases or other agreements reaches \$100,000, file with the Secretary of the State certain specified information to include disclosure of beneficial ownership of the business.

23. Political Contribution Disclosure

The Contractor shall comply with Md. Code Ann., Election Law Article, Title 14, which requires that every person that enters into a contract for a procurement with the State, a county, or a municipal corporation, or other political subdivision of the State, during a calendar year in which the person receives a contract with a governmental entity in the amount of \$200,000 or more, shall, file with the State Board of Elections statements disclosing: (a) any contributions made during the reporting period to a candidate for elective office in any primary or general election; and (b) the name of each candidate to whom one or more contributions in a cumulative amount of \$500 or more were made during the reporting period. The statement shall be filed with the State Board of Elections: (a) before execution of a contract by the State, a county, a municipal corporation, or other political subdivision of the State, and shall cover the 24 months prior to when a contract was awarded; and (b) if the contribution is made after the execution of a contract, then twice a year, throughout the contract term, on: (i) May 31, to cover the six (6) month period ending April 30; and (ii) November 30, to cover the six (6) month period ending October 31. Additional information is available on the State Board of Elections website: http://www.elections.state.md.us/campaign_finance/index.html.

24. Document Retention and Inspection Clause

The Contractor and subcontractors shall retain and maintain all records and documents relating to this Contract for a period of five (5) years after final payment by the State hereunder or any applicable statute of limitations or federal retention requirements (such as HIPAA), whichever is longer, and shall make them available for inspection and audit by authorized representatives of the State, including the Procurement Officer or designee, at all reasonable times. All records related in any way to the Contract are to be retained for the entire time provided under this section. In the event of any audit, the Contractor shall provide assistance to the State, without additional compensation, to identify, investigate, and reconcile any audit discrepancies and/or variances. This Section 24 shall survive expiration or termination of the Contract.

25. Right to Audit

- 25.1 The State reserves the right, at its sole discretion and at any time, to perform an audit of the Contractor's and/or subcontractor's performance under this Contract. An audit is defined as a planned and documented independent activity performed by qualified personnel including but not limited to State and federal auditors, to determine by investigation, examination, or evaluation of objective evidence from data, statements, records, operations and performance practices (financial or otherwise) the Contractor's compliance with the Contract, including but not limited to adequacy and compliance with established procedures and internal controls over the Contract services being performed for the State.
- 25.2 Upon three (3) Business Days' notice, the Contractor and/or any subcontractors shall provide the State reasonable access to their respective records to verify conformance to the terms of the Contract. The Department may conduct these audits with any or all of its own internal resources or by securing the services of a third party accounting or audit firm, solely at the Department's election. The Department may copy, at its own expense, any record related to the services performed and provided under this Contract.
- 25.3 The right to audit shall include any of the Contractor's subcontractors including but not limited to any lower tier subcontractor(s) that provide essential support to the Contract services. The Contractor and/or subcontractor(s) shall ensure the Department has the right to audit such subcontractor(s).
- 25.4 The Contractor and/or subcontractors shall cooperate with Department and Department's designated accountant or auditor and shall provide the necessary assistance for the Department or Department's designated accountant or auditor to conduct the audit.
- 25.5 This Section shall survive expiration or termination of the Contract.

26. Compliance with Laws

The Contractor hereby represents and warrants that:

- 26.1 It is qualified to do business in the State and that it will take such action as, from time to time hereafter, may be necessary to remain so qualified;
- 26.2 It is not in arrears with respect to the payment of any monies due and owing the State, or any department or unit thereof, including but not limited to the payment of taxes and employee benefits, and that it shall not become so in arrears during the term of this Contract;
- 26.3 It shall comply with all federal, State and local laws, regulations, ordinances, and building Codes and Program Guidelines applicable to its activities and obligations under this Contract; and
- 26.4 It shall obtain, at its expense, all licenses, permits, insurance, and governmental approvals, if any, necessary to the performance of its obligations under this Contract.

27. Cost and Price Certification

By submitting cost or price information, the Contractor certifies to the best of its knowledge that the information submitted is accurate, complete, and current as of the date of Contractor's Proposal.

The price under this Contract and any change order or modification hereunder, including profit or fee, shall be adjusted to exclude any significant price increases occurring because the Contractor furnished cost or price information which, as of the date of Contractor's Proposal, was inaccurate, incomplete, or not current.

28. Subcontracting; Assignment

The Contractor may not subcontract any portion of the services provided under this Contract without obtaining the prior written approval of the Procurement Officer, nor may the Contractor assign this Contract or any of its rights or obligations hereunder, without the prior written approval of the Procurement Officer provided, however, that a Contractor may assign monies receivable under a contract after due notice to the State. Any subcontracts shall include such language as may be required in various clauses contained within this Contract, exhibits, and attachments. The Contract shall not be assigned until all approvals, documents, and affidavits are completed and properly registered. The State shall not be responsible for fulfillment of the Contractor's obligations to its subcontractors.

29. Liability

For breach of this Contract, negligence, misrepresentation, or any other contract or tort claim, Contractor shall be liable as follows:

- 29.1 For infringement of patents, copyrights, trademarks, service marks, and/or trade secrets, as provided in Section 7 of this Contract;
- 29.2 Without limitation for damages for bodily injury (including death) and damage to real property and tangible personal property; and
- 29.3 For all other claims, damages, losses, costs, expenses, suits, or actions in any way related to this Contract, regardless of the form, Contractor's liability for third party claims arising under Section 10 of this Contract shall be unlimited if the State is not immune from liability for claims arising under Section 10.

30. Commercial Nondiscrimination

- 30.1 As a condition of entering into this Contract, the Contractor represents and warrants that it will comply with the State's Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy, as described at Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 19. As part of such compliance, the Contractor may not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry or national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, sexual identity, genetic information or an individual's refusal to submit to a genetic test or make available the results of a genetic test or on the basis of disability or other unlawful forms of discrimination in the solicitation, selection, hiring, or commercial treatment of subcontractors, vendors, suppliers, or commercial customers, nor shall the Contractor retaliate against any person for reporting instances of such discrimination. The Contractor shall provide equal opportunity for subcontractors, vendors, and suppliers to participate in all of its public sector and private sector subcontracting and supply opportunities, provided that this clause does not prohibit or limit lawful efforts to remedy the effects of marketplace discrimination that have occurred or are occurring in the marketplace. The Contractor understands that a material violation of this clause shall be considered a material breach of this Contract and may result in termination of this Contract, disqualification of the Contractor from participating in State contracts, or other sanctions. This clause is not enforceable by or for the benefit of, and creates no obligation to, any third party.
- 30.2 The Contractor shall include the above Commercial Nondiscrimination clause, or similar clause approved by the Department, in all subcontracts.
- 30.3 As a condition of entering into this Contract, upon the request of the Commission on Civil Rights, and only after the filing of a complaint against Contractor under Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 19, as amended from time to time, the Contractor agrees to provide within sixty (60) days after the request

a complete list of the names of all subcontractors, vendors, and suppliers that the Contractor has used in the past four (4) years on any of its contracts that were undertaken within the State of Maryland, including the total dollar amount paid by the Contractor on each subcontract or supply contract. The Contractor further agrees to cooperate in any investigation conducted by the State pursuant to the State's Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy as set forth at Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 19, and to provide any documents relevant to any investigation that are requested by the State. The Contractor understands that violation of this clause is a material breach of this Contract and may result in contract termination, disqualification by the State from participating in State contracts, and other sanctions.

31. Prompt Pay Requirements

- 31.1 If the Contractor withholds payment of an undisputed amount to its subcontractor, the Department, at its option and in its sole discretion, may take one or more of the following actions:
- a. Not process further payments to the contractor until payment to the subcontractor is verified;
 - b. Suspend all or some of the contract work without affecting the completion date(s) for the contract work;
 - c. Pay or cause payment of the undisputed amount to the subcontractor from monies otherwise due or that may become due;
 - d. Place a payment for an undisputed amount in an interest-bearing escrow account; or
 - e. Take other or further actions as appropriate to resolve the withheld payment.
- 31.2 An "undisputed amount" means an amount owed by the Contractor to a subcontractor for which there is no good faith dispute. Such "undisputed amounts" include, without limitation:
- a. Retainage which had been withheld and is, by the terms of the agreement between the Contractor and subcontractor, due to be distributed to the subcontractor; and
 - b. An amount withheld because of issues arising out of an agreement or occurrence unrelated to the agreement under which the amount is withheld.
- 31.3 An act, failure to act, or decision of a Procurement Officer or a representative of the Department, concerning a withheld payment between the Contractor and a subcontractor under this provision, may not:
- a. Affect the rights of the contracting parties under any other provision of law;
 - b. Be used as evidence on the merits of a dispute between the Department and the contractor in any other proceeding; or
 - c. Result in liability against or prejudice the rights of the Department.
- 31.4 The remedies enumerated above are in addition to those provided under COMAR 21.11.03.13 with respect to subcontractors that have contracted pursuant to the Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) program.
- 31.5 To ensure compliance with certified MBE subcontract participation goals, the Department may, consistent with COMAR 21.11.03.13, take the following measures:
- a. Verify that the certified MBEs listed in the MBE participation schedule actually are performing work and receiving compensation as set forth in the MBE participation schedule. This verification may include, as appropriate:
 - i. Inspecting any relevant records of the Contractor;
 - iii. Inspecting the jobsite; and
 - iv. Interviewing subcontractors and workers.

Verification shall include a review of:

- i. The Contractor's monthly report listing unpaid invoices over thirty (30) days old from certified MBE subcontractors and the reason for nonpayment; and
- ii. The monthly report of each certified MBE subcontractor, which lists payments received from the Contractor in the preceding thirty (30) days and invoices for which the subcontractor has not been paid.

- b. If the Department determines that the Contractor is not in compliance with certified MBE participation goals, then the Department will notify the Contractor in writing of its findings, and will require the Contractor to take appropriate corrective action. Corrective action may include, but is not limited to, requiring the Contractor to compensate the MBE for work performed as set forth in the MBE participation schedule.
- c. If the Department determines that the Contractor is in material noncompliance with MBE contract provisions and refuses or fails to take the corrective action that the Department requires, then the Department may:
 - i. Terminate the contract;
 - ii. Refer the matter to the Office of the Attorney General for appropriate action; or
 - iii. Initiate any other specific remedy identified by the contract, including the contractual remedies required by any applicable laws, regulations, and directives regarding the payment of undisputed amounts.
- d. Upon completion of the Contract, but before final payment or release of retainage or both, the Contractor shall submit a final report, in affidavit form under the penalty of perjury, of all payments made to, or withheld from, MBE subcontractors.

32. Living Wage

If a Contractor subject to the Living Wage law fails to submit all records required under COMAR 21.11.10.05 to the Commissioner of Labor and Industry at the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, the agency may withhold payment of any invoice or retainage. The agency may require certification from the Commissioner on a quarterly basis that such records were properly submitted.

33. Use of Estimated Quantities

Unless specifically indicated otherwise in the State's solicitation or other controlling documents related to the Scope of Work, any sample amounts provided are estimates only and the Department does not guarantee a minimum or maximum number of units or usage in the performance of this Contract.

34. Contract Monitor and Procurement Officer

The work to be accomplished under this Contract shall be performed under the direction of the Contract Monitor. All matters relating to the interpretation of this Contract shall be referred to the Procurement Officer for determination.

35. Notices

All notices hereunder shall be in writing and either delivered personally or sent by certified or registered mail, postage prepaid, as follows:

If to the State: Amanda Sadler
Procurement Officer
Department of Housing and Community Development
7800 Harkins Road
Lanham, MD 20706

If to the Contractor:

36. Liquidated Damages

- 36.1 The Contract requires the Contractor to make good faith efforts to comply with the Minority Business Enterprise ("MBE") Program and Contract provisions. The State and the Contractor acknowledge and agree that the State

will incur economic damages and losses, including, but not limited to, loss of goodwill, detrimental impact on economic development, and diversion of internal staff resources, if the Contractor does not make good faith efforts to comply with the requirements of the MBE Program and pertinent MBE Contract provisions. The parties further acknowledge and agree that the damages the State might reasonably be anticipated to accrue as a result of such lack of compliance are difficult or impossible to ascertain with precision and that liquidated damages represent a fair, reasonable, and appropriate estimation of damages.

Upon a determination by the State that the Contractor failed to make good faith efforts to comply with one or more of the specified MBE Program requirements or pertinent MBE Contract provisions and without the State being required to present any evidence of the amount or character of actual damages sustained, the Contractor agrees to pay liquidated damages to the State at the rates set forth below. Such liquidated damages are intended to represent estimated actual damages and are not intended as a penalty. The Contractor expressly agrees that the State may withhold payment on any invoices as an offset against liquidated damages owed. The Contractor further agrees that for each specified violation, the agreed-upon liquidated damages are reasonably proximate to the loss the State is anticipated to incur as a result of each violation.

36.1.1 Failure to submit each monthly payment report in full compliance with COMAR 21.11.03.13B(3): \$26.12 per day until the monthly report is submitted as required.

36.1.2 Failure to include in its agreements with MBE subcontractors a provision requiring submission of payment reports in full compliance with COMAR 21.11.03.13B(4): \$91.42 per MBE subcontractor.

36.1.3 Failure to comply with COMAR 21.11.03.12 in terminating, canceling, or changing the scope of work/value of a contract with an MBE subcontractor and/or amendment of the MBE participation schedule: the difference between the dollar value of the MBE participation commitment on the MBE participation schedule for that specific MBE firm and the dollar value of the work performed by that MBE firm for the Contract.

36.1.4 Failure to meet the Contractor's total MBE participation goal and subgoal commitments: the difference between the dollar value of the total MBE participation commitment on the MBE participation schedule and the MBE participation actually achieved.

36.1.5 Failure to promptly pay all undisputed amounts to a subcontractor in full compliance with the prompt payment provisions of the Contract: \$97.95 per day until the undisputed amount due to the subcontractor is paid.

36.2 Notwithstanding the assessment or availability of liquidated damages, the State reserves the right to terminate the Contract and to exercise any and all other rights or remedies which may be available under the Contract or which otherwise may be available at law or in equity.

(If a Contractor intends to rely on its Parent Company in some manner while performing on the State Contract, the following clause should be included and completed for the Contractor's Parent Company to guarantee performance of the Contractor. The guarantor/Contractor's Parent Company should be named as a party and signatory to the Contract and should be in good standing with SDAT.)

37. Parent Company Guarantee

(Corporate name of Contractor's Parent Company) hereby guarantees absolutely the full, prompt, and complete performance by (Contractor) of all the terms, conditions and obligations contained in this Contract, as it may be amended from time to time, including any and all exhibits that are now or may become incorporated hereunto, and other obligations of every nature and kind that now or may in the future arise out of or in connection with this Contract, including any and all financial commitments, obligations, and liabilities. (Corporate name of Contractor's Parent Company) may not transfer this absolute guaranty to any other person or entity without the prior express written approval of the State, which approval the State may grant, withhold, or qualify in its sole and absolute subjective discretion. (Corporate name of Contractor's

Parent Company) further agrees that if the State brings any claim, action, suit or proceeding against (Contractor), (Corporate name of Contractor's Parent Company) may be named as a party, in its capacity as Absolute Guarantor.

38. Miscellaneous

- 38.1 Any provision of this Contract which contemplates performance or observance subsequent to any termination or expiration of this Contract shall survive termination or expiration of this Contract and continue in full force and effect.
- 38.2 If any term contained in this Contract is held or finally determined to be invalid in any respect, in whole or in part, such term shall be severed from this Contract, and the remaining terms contained herein shall continue in full force and effect, except to the extent that the invalidated provision impacts the reasonableness of any other material term of the Contract.
- 38.3 Electronic Signatures Provision: This Contract may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, and all of which taken together shall constitute one and the same instrument. Signatures provided by facsimile or other electronic means, e.g., and not by way of limitation, in Adobe .PDF sent by electronic mail, shall be deemed to be original signatures.

[SIGNATURES ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties have executed this Contract as of the date hereinabove set forth.

CONTRACTOR

STATE OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

By:

By: Anthony Reed, Deputy Secretary

Date:

Date:

PARENT COMPANY (GUARANTOR) (if applicable) By:

By:

Date

Date

Approved for form and legal sufficiency
this ____ day of _____, 20__.

Assistant Attorney General

APPROVED BY BPW: _____
(Date) (BPW Item #)

ATTACHMENT N – CONTRACT AFFIDAVIT

A. AUTHORITY

I hereby affirm that I, _____ (name of affiant) am the _____ (title) and duly authorized representative of _____ (name of business entity) and that I possess the legal authority to make this affidavit on behalf of the business for which I am acting.

B. CERTIFICATION OF REGISTRATION OR QUALIFICATION WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENTS AND TAXATION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

The business named above is a (check applicable box):

- (1) Corporation - domestic or foreign;
- (2) Limited Liability Company - domestic or foreign;
- (3) Partnership - domestic or foreign;
- (4) Statutory Trust - domestic or foreign;
- (5) Sole Proprietorship.

and is registered or qualified as required under Maryland Law. I further affirm that the above business is in good standing both in Maryland and (IF APPLICABLE) in the jurisdiction where it is presently organized, and has filed all of its annual reports, together with filing fees, with the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation. The name and address of its resident agent (IF APPLICABLE) filed with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation is:

Name and Department ID Number: _____

Address: _____

and that if it does business under a trade name, it has filed a certificate with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation that correctly identifies that true name and address of the principal or owner as:

Name and Department ID Number: _____

Address: _____

C. FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE AFFIRMATION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

I am aware of, and the above business will comply with, the provisions of State Finance and Procurement Article, §13-221, Annotated Code of Maryland, which require that every business that enters into contracts, leases, or other agreements with the State of Maryland or its agencies during a calendar year under which the business is to receive in the aggregate \$100,000 or more shall, within 30 days of the time when the aggregate value of the contracts, leases, or other agreements reaches \$100,000, file with the Secretary of State of Maryland certain specified information to include disclosure of beneficial ownership of the business.

D. POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE AFFIRMATION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

I am aware of, and the above business will comply with, Election Law Article, Title 14, Annotated Code of Maryland, which requires that every person that enters into a procurement contract with the State, a county, or a municipal corporation, or other political subdivision of the State, during a calendar year in which the person receives a contract with a governmental entity in the amount of \$200,000 or more, shall file with the State Board of Elections statements disclosing: (a) any contributions made during the reporting period to a candidate for elective office in any primary or general election; and (b) the name of each candidate to whom one or more contributions in a cumulative amount of \$500 or more were made during the reporting period. The statement shall be filed with the State Board of Elections: (a) before execution of a contract by the State, a county, a municipal corporation, or other political subdivision of the State, and shall cover the 24 months prior to when a contract was awarded; and (b) if the contribution is made after the execution of a contract, then twice a year, throughout the contract term, on or before: (i) May 31, to cover the six (6) month period ending April 30; and (ii) November 30, to cover the six (6) month period ending October 31.

E. DRUG AND ALCOHOL FREE WORKPLACE

(Applicable to all contracts unless the contract is for a law enforcement agency and the agency head or the agency head's designee has determined that application of COMAR 21.11.08 and this certification would be inappropriate in connection with the law enforcement agency's undercover operations.)

I CERTIFY THAT:

- (1) Terms defined in COMAR 21.11.08 shall have the same meanings when used in this certification.
- (2) By submission of its Proposal, the business, if other than an individual, certifies and agrees that, with respect to its employees to be employed under a contract resulting from this solicitation, the business shall:
 - (a) Maintain a workplace free of drug and alcohol abuse during the term of the contract;

- (b) Publish a statement notifying its employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of drugs, and the abuse of drugs or alcohol is prohibited in the business' workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of these prohibitions;
- (c) Prohibit its employees from working under the influence of drugs or alcohol;
- (d) Not hire or assign to work on the contract anyone who the business knows, or in the exercise of due diligence should know, currently abuses drugs or alcohol and is not actively engaged in a bona fide drug or alcohol abuse assistance or rehabilitation program;
- (e) Promptly inform the appropriate law enforcement agency of every drug-related crime that occurs in its workplace if the business has observed the violation or otherwise has reliable information that a violation has occurred;
- (f) Establish drug and alcohol abuse awareness programs to inform its employees about:
 - (i) The dangers of drug and alcohol abuse in the workplace;
 - (ii) The business's policy of maintaining a drug and alcohol free workplace;
 - (iii) Any available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
 - (iv) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees who abuse drugs and alcohol in the workplace;
- (g) Provide all employees engaged in the performance of the contract with a copy of the statement required by §E(2)(b), above;
- (h) Notify its employees in the statement required by §E(2)(b), above, that as a condition of continued employment on the contract, the employee shall:
 - (i) Abide by the terms of the statement; and
 - (ii) Notify the employer of any criminal drug or alcohol abuse conviction for an offense occurring in the workplace not later than 5 days after a conviction;
- (i) Notify the procurement officer within 10 days after receiving notice under §E(2)(h)(ii), above, or otherwise receiving actual notice of a conviction;
- (j) Within 30 days after receiving notice under §E(2)(h)(ii), above, or otherwise receiving actual notice of a conviction, impose either of the following sanctions or remedial measures on any employee who is convicted of a drug or alcohol abuse offense occurring in the workplace:
 - (i) Take appropriate personnel action against an employee, up to and including termination; or
 - (ii) Require an employee to satisfactorily participate in a bona fide drug or alcohol abuse assistance or rehabilitation program; and
- (k) Make a good faith effort to maintain a drug and alcohol free workplace through implementation of §E(2)(a)—(j), above.
- (3) If the business is an individual, the individual shall certify and agree as set forth in §E(4), below, that the individual shall not engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of drugs or the abuse of drugs or alcohol in the performance of the contract.
- (4) I acknowledge and agree that:
 - (a) The award of the contract is conditional upon compliance with COMAR 21.11.08 and this certification;
 - (b) The violation of the provisions of COMAR 21.11.08 or this certification shall be cause to suspend payments under, or terminate the contract for default under COMAR 21.07.01.11 or 21.07.03.15, as applicable; and
 - (c) The violation of the provisions of COMAR 21.11.08 or this certification in connection with the contract may, in the exercise of the discretion of the Board of Public Works, result in suspension and debarment of the business under COMAR 21.08.03.

F. CERTAIN AFFIRMATIONS VALID

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

To the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, each of the affirmations, certifications, or acknowledgements contained in that certain Proposal Affidavit dated _____, 201____, and executed by me for the purpose of obtaining the contract to which this Exhibit is attached remains true and correct in all respects as if made as of the date of this Contract Affidavit and as if fully set forth herein.

I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

Date: _____

By: _____ (print name of Authorized Representative and Affiant)

_____ (signature of Authorized Representative and Affiant)

This solicitation does not require a DHS Hiring Agreement.

APPENDIX 1: Abbreviations and Definitions

For purposes of this RFP, the following abbreviations or terms have the meanings indicated below:

1. **Business Day(s)** – The official working days of the week to include Monday through Friday. Official working days exclude State Holidays (see definition of “Normal State Business Hours” below).
2. **Functional Area I** – The category of services relating to Weatherization and Energy Efficiency, as described in the Scope of Work, Section 2.3.
3. **Functional Area II** – The category of services relating to Enhanced Weatherization Services, as described in the Scope of Work, Section 2.3.
4. **Functional Area** or **Functional Areas** – Refers generally to either Functional Area I or Functional Area II, or collectively to both Functional Area I and Functional Area II.
5. **COMAR** – Code of Maryland Regulations available on-line at www.dsd.state.md.us.
6. **Contract** – The Contract awarded to the successful Offeror pursuant to this RFP. The Contract will be in a substantially similar form to the Contract attached as **Attachment M**.
7. **Contract Commencement** - The date the Contract is signed by the Department following any required approvals of the Contract, including approval by the Board of Public Works, if such approval is required.
8. **Contract Monitor** – The State representative for this Contract who is primarily responsible for Contract administration functions, including issuing written direction, invoice approval, monitoring this Contract to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the Contract, monitoring MBE and VSBE compliance, and achieving completion of the Contract on budget, on time, and within scope. The Contract Monitor may authorize in writing one or more State representatives to act on behalf of the Contract Monitor in the performance of the Contract Monitor’s responsibilities.
9. **Contractor** – The selected Offeror that is awarded a Contract by the State.
10. **Department or DHCD** – Department of Housing and Community Development.
11. **eMM** – eMaryland Marketplace (see RFP Section 4.2).
12. **HES** – DHCD Hancock Energy Software.
13. **HEAT** – DHCD Hancock Energy Audit Tool.
14. **Key Personnel** – All personnel identified in the solicitation as such, or personnel identified by the Offeror in its Proposal that are essential to the work being performed under the Contract. See RFP Sections 3.10 and 5.4.2.7.
15. **Local Time** – Time in the Eastern Time Zone as observed by the State of Maryland. Unless otherwise specified, all stated times shall be Local Time, even if not expressly designated as such.
16. **Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)** – Any legal entity certified as defined at COMAR 21.01.02.01B(54) which is certified by the Maryland Department of Transportation under COMAR 21.11.03.
17. **Normal State Business Hours** - Normal State business hours are 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday except State Holidays, which can be found at: www.dbm.maryland.gov – keyword: State Holidays.
18. **Offeror** – An entity that submits a Proposal in response to this RFP.

19. **Procurement Officer** – Prior to the award of any Contract, the sole point of contact in the State for purposes of this solicitation. After Contract award, the Procurement Officer has responsibilities as detailed in the Contract (Attachment M), and is the only State representative who can authorize changes to the Contract. The Department may change the Procurement Officer at any time by written notice to the Contractor.
20. **Proposal** – As appropriate, either or both of an Offeror's Technical or Financial Proposal.
21. **Request for Proposals (RFP)** – This Request for Proposals issued by the Department, with the Solicitation Number and date of issuance indicated in the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet (near the beginning of the solicitation, after the Title Page and Notice to Vendors), including any addenda.
22. **State** – The State of Maryland.
23. **Total Proposal Price** - The Offeror's total proposed price for services in response to this solicitation, included in the Financial Proposal with Attachment B – Financial Proposal Form, and used in the financial evaluation of Proposals (see RFP Section 5.3).
24. **Veteran-owned Small Business Enterprise (VSBE)** – A business that is verified by the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs as a veteran-owned small business. The listing of verified VSBEs may be found at <http://www.va.gov/osdbu>.

APPENDIX 2: Program Operations Manual

This is the current program operation manual used by the Department. It is provided with the RFP for informational purposes and is not required to be submitted at Proposal submission time. On or before contract start date, a revised version of the POM will be sent to the awardee. The revised version may vary from this current manual and may continue to be revised over the course of the contract term.

See separate PDF file.

APPENDIX 3: Preferred Service Territory

See separate Excel file.